

The Week

HOME 1-5
Rival unions seek new deal for researchers
Lecturers clash with WEA over scheme for jobless
Scientists ignore foreign research, says new study
BSA promises help to unemployed dons

OVERSEAS 6-7
US clamps down on Libyan students
Another suspected research fraud at Harvard
Mexican university staff may lose the right to strike
Bill redefines role of French universities

ARTICLES 8-15
Paul Flather visits London's Marx Memorial Library; and Karen Gold reports on how computerized mail can help distance learning students, 8
United Nations University: Patricia Santinelli talks to the rector of the seven-year-old institution and visits one of the university's projects in a Sri Lankan village, 9

Sandra Hempel reports on how universities cope with complaints from those who fall their PhDs; and Günther Khnas describes the malaise that is affecting German universities, 10

Leigh Hafrey reflects on the preoccupations of freshmen in a Massachusetts Institute of Technology class, 13

Jacques Barzun discusses William James' ideas on education and their contemporary relevance, 14

D. C. Burke describes the progress of research into the antiviral drug interferon; and Ray Footman completes his report of how American colleges approach the task of fund-raising, 15

ARTS 11
Rupert Christiansen talks to Durham University's composer-in-residence, and Brian Morton reviews the recent work of Slade professor Lawrence Gowing

NOTICEBOARD

BOOKS 16-24
W. H. Walsh reviews a new collection of essays by Michael Oakeshott, 16
Maurice Larkin reviews a study of Charles Maurras and French Catholicism (17), D. E. Pollard discusses modern Chinese literature (18), David Martin reviews Robert Nisbet's *Presences* (19), and Stuart Glover discusses nucleic acids and intellectual biology (20)

ENGINEERING BOOKS

21-24

CLASSIFIED INDEX

25

OPINION

34-36
Timothy Healy argues that handicap must not be a barrier to learning; Christopher Price MP writes an open letter to the new permanent secretary of the DES; and Don's Diary from John Riley, a former Southampton research fellow, 34
Letters on unit costs in polytechnics and Joseph Priestley; and "Union View" from Diana Warwick of the AUT, 35

Next Week

David Lodge reviews two books on deconstruction
New books in philosophy
Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones on the new cold war
New blood briefing



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The academic 'lump'

The distribution of the 200 "new blood" posts among the universities neatly replicates the distribution of the recurrent grant in July 1981. That is hardly a surprise. What would have been surprising would have been a significant mismatch for that would have indicated that the University Grants Committee had changed its mind about both subject balance and institutional merit.

In fact the two distributions correspond so closely that it is clear that the UGC has had only few and minor second thoughts about the judgments it reached two years ago. The lucky universities in July 1981 are the lucky ones today and the unlucky have seen their bad luck confirmed.

This divisive outcome was probably inevitable as well as predictable. So long as the setting of priorities is approached through subjects rather than institutions - the straight and narrow road which the UGC has always followed and to which in this particular exercise it was strictly kept by the participation of the research councils - the pecking order is certain to favour the more established universities as certainly as chickens produce eggs and eggs chickens.

Although its benefits could not be foregone, the "new blood" exercise has been a cynical operation - cynical from the point of view of the government because no minister can seriously maintain that these 200 posts will reverse any potential intellectual decline in the universities as a result of the cuts yet they make comforting alibi-making headlines; cynical from the point of view of the UGC and its research council partners because neither seriously claims that they are equipped to undertake such a task as the rapid-fire distribution of academic posts to individual universities; cynical from the point of view of the universities which have turned a blind eye to a massive invasion of their autonomy for the sake of a job here and a job there.

In short no one really believes that the "new blood" posts can actually produce the effect announced in their short-hand title or that the means of their distribution were either sensible or even proper. Certainly these new posts will have little effect on the medium and long-term evolution of the academic profession which is the process above all others that will determine the future shape of higher education. For it is through the values and practices of the profession that social and economic demands are interpreted and intellectual promise realised. In the turmoil of the last three years far too little attention has been paid to this

evolution. Four main scenarios seem plausible. The first is that nothing much will change. The academic profession may shrink a little, although not perhaps as much as a cost-conscious government would like, but its shape will remain essentially unaltered. Conditions of service, tenure of employment in particular, may be modified but not to such an extent as to disturb the collegiality and (elitist) oligarchical of the profession. When financial stability is restored, universities and polytechnics will begin again to make permanent appointments so reversing any process of proletarianization.

Some modest diversification may take place with institutions choosing to specialize in different roles, but again not to such an extent as to produce a truly stratified system. In particular the strong links between teaching and research will be maintained, and possibly even strengthened because the polytechnics and colleges will be incorporated more fully into the research culture.

The second scenario is the opposite of the first. Under it, although the size of the academic profession might be maintained and even increased, its autonomy would no longer be able to insist that they fulfilled an expert or fiduciary role in society which demanded that they and their institutions should be granted the greatest possible degree of autonomy.

Instead they would need to regard themselves either as partners in wider collaborative enterprises, or else as providing a service as expert consultants to lay clients who would command the whole picture. Certainly if we are to contemplate a large expansion of continuing education, the authority of the academic profession is bound to be compromised.

Although this second scenario would mark the final decline of the "donnish dominion", it would clearly do wrong to regard it as a defeat for higher education. Rather it would demonstrate the success of higher education in breaking down the boundaries between academic and lay institutions and in demystifying expert knowledge. Indeed it could be regarded as another stage in the secularization of higher education.

The third scenario is a continuation of the recent trends in the structure of the academic profession. The privileged core of the academic profession with its strong traditions of solidarity, collegiality, and autonomy will continue to shrink, and the proletarianized penumbra of short-term contract teachers and researchers to

grow. The financial destabilization of higher education clearly encourages this trend, which in some sense marks a return to the insecure patterns of academic employment in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

So too does the growing influence of utilitarian as opposed to academic values in research, which stress the immediately functional rather than the intellectually valid aspects of knowledge.

As the research councils increasingly establish research priorities that are problem-centred or issue-related, whether voluntarily or under external political pressure, the already established trend towards a contract profession, an academic "lump", is reinforced. The eventual outcome may be to produce a more sharply contested intellectual culture, because a significant part of the academic profession will no longer have such a settled interest in established society.

The fourth scenario is that the intellectual creativity and so productivity of the academic profession will decline because now recruitment will be so curtailed over the next decade despite the "new blood" initiative. As a result the prestige of higher education will decline as its efficiency as a knowledge machine diminishes.

Those who are denied secure places in the academic profession because no permanent posts are available will either drift away into better rewarded professions or else fall to make a whole-hearted commitment to intellectual work.

If this interpretation is accepted, it is then likely that in the late 1990s there will be a new burst of intellectual excitement as the academic profession becomes reinvigorated by the next expansion of higher education and by the final retirement of the cohort of academics recruited in the last expansionary wave of the 1950s and 1960s.

The effect on intellectual life therefore would be the opposite of the third scenario. Instead of the rapid development of more critical intellectual styles, it would easily in the 1980s to be succeeded at the very end of the century by a revival of intellectual life but all firmly in the apolitical British tradition.

Two final results are likely in course to be a mixture of all four scenarios. It seems unlikely that the overall status and size of the academic profession will be much reduced, but equally unlikely that the modest trend towards a proletarianized penumbra will be reversed.

Laurie Taylor



Any other business, Charles? Nothing much, sir. In fact I have reached that point in the meeting where it would be appropriate to me to convey to you on behalf of the other members of this little committee, our very best wishes to you for your forthcoming appointment. Thank you, Charles. As you know I've enjoyed the last years with all of you and I've often thought that during that time...

Excuse me, sir, but have we done Hull? What's that, Geoffrey? Have we done Hull, sir? The last saying something or other about wanting their money back? Money back? Hull? What money? I thought we took most of it off this last year. Are they still whingeing? No, sir. I think it's the new money that we finished them this year for going over the student intake target.

No real problem is there, Geoffrey? Routine business. It's a tough job from the vice chancellor but I've got it stamped: "Standard reply assisting government policy." Does that cover the matter?

Possibly, sir, although the vice chancellor does express deep concern at a retrospective penalty for - as he puts it - "exceeding in 1982/83 an unspecified intake of students". Well, he certainly did go over the top, didn't he?

Yes, but I think, sir, with all respect, that his point is that there was no actual "top", as you call it, to go over for 1982/83. Only for 1983/84, and so it's a little unfair to be fined for going over it.

Steady on, Geoffrey. I mean obviously there's no definite figure for the 1982/83 "top" - that would be for the 1983/84 - but that would be interfering with fundamental matters of university autonomy - but the point is surely that this table tells that everyone round it by quite a bit. That's the critical point.

I think, sir, that the vice chancellor refers at least implicitly to the phrase "quite a bit" when he writes in his next line of being penalized for just for exceeding an unspecified target, but also "for exceeding it by an unspecified number".

Really, that's too much, you know. I mean one can hardly call "quite a bit" unspecified. It's - how can one put it - "quite a bit" more than seemed reasonable to all of us at that particular Thursday lunch.

When we discussed the matter, yes indeed, sir. I don't want to suggest for a moment that we re-open the case, but you know, Geoffrey, I think I'd rather in favour of making a point rather no-nonsense response to the chaplain - perhaps threatening a hefty fine if they don't get the numbers right for 1983/84.

But without, of course, sir, mentioning an actual intake. Exactly.

Or indicating the sort of excess above the unspecified intake which might attract a further penalty? Absolutely. We must never forget that the truly great days of this committee in the last two years have been inspired by one fundamental maxim - one which I hope will continue to inform your future deliberations. Adieu, gentlemen and ladies. Remember - "KEEP 'EM QUIET SING".

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More of London for sale?

by Ngagio Croquer

London University is likely to sell another prime site, Queen Elizabeth College, as a result of the proposed merger between King's, QEC and Chelsea College.

The small working party plotting the merger of the "Trinity" has decided to recommend that the QEC site, in Campden Hill, Holland Park be given up.

It is understood there will be a maximum of three sites, King's in The Strand, Denmark Hill and Chelsea, and either Denmark Hill or Chelsea's Marjonn building in King's Road, will be further developed. Marjonn is currently favourite because a school nearby could be used for accommodation and it is a considerably cheaper option - £10m as opposed to £15m.

There would be no room for expansion at the QEC site and its desirable position would make a sale highly lucrative. Also being considered is the use of the former dental school at St George's medical school in Tooting, now vacant, being used as the "Trinity" for subjects allied to medicine, such as biochemistry, and nutrition and nursing.

Bedford College in Regents Park is currently being sold as a result of Bedford's move to Royal Holloway College, at Egham, Surrey. London is currently pressing ministers to provide bridging finance for the mergers, particularly so that property does not have to be sold quickly and cheaply to finance them.

The question of Westfield College, now "associating" with Queen Mary College is more complex. The question of the college's viability is being seriously considered although it has strengths in an excellent library (where QMC is poor) and student residences.

Westfield's chemistry and physics are going seriously to QMC and QMC and biological sciences to QMC. It wants to return a net transfer of arts students.

There is likely to be a huge row when plans for the distribution of the numbers which can be accommodated under stated expenditure plans. The UGC up to now has pursued a policy of safeguarding standards by protecting funding levels per student and depressing numbers. The Government may wish to see some relaxation in

HOW COULD ANYONE REFUSE TO HELP THEM?



DES agrees to expansion by linking grants to dole

by John O'Leary

Ministers have sanctioned a new phase of expansion in higher education with the introduction of new financial arrangements which will allow student numbers to float above previous Government targets.

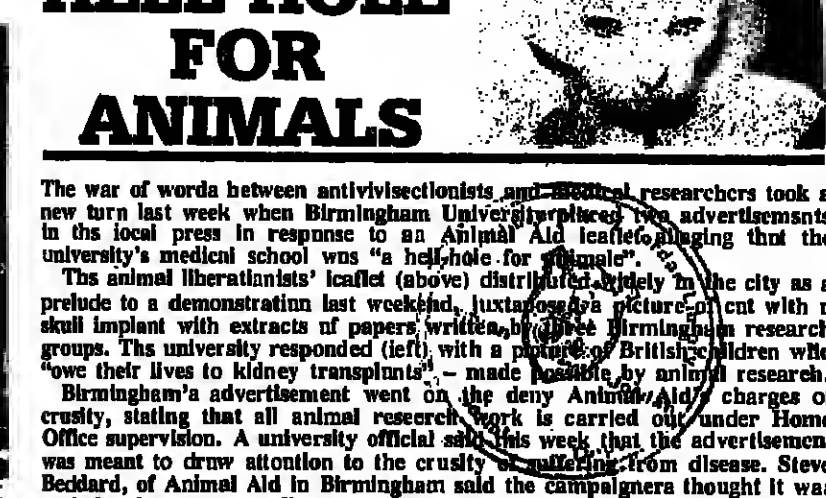
Despite the retention of rigid cash limits in all departmental budgets, it has been agreed that half of any overspending on student awards will be offset against the cost of unemployment benefit for those concerned.

The decision, supported by the Treasury, represents a coup for the Department of Education and Science since governments have always resisted pressure to link "dole" payments with the cost of alternative activities. It also explains the apparently contradictory ministerial statements on student numbers in recent months.

While February's Expenditure White Paper was placing the blame for £75m overspending in the DES budget in 1981/82 and £40m in 1982/83 "mainly" on increased numbers of student awards, Mr William Waldegrave, under secretary for higher education, was congratulating the polytechnics for increasing their enrolments. Although the White Paper allowed for a marginal increase in the awards budget next year, no estimates were made of student numbers.

Discussions are now under way with the National Advisory Body and the University Grants Committee on the numbers which can be accommodated under stated expenditure plans. The UGC up to now has pursued a policy of safeguarding standards by protecting funding levels per student and depressing numbers. The Government may wish to see some relaxation in

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Second subject plan dropped

by Patricia Santinelli

A circular reversing Department of Education and Science policy designed to prevent teacher training students studying additional subjects has been withdrawn at the last minute.

The circular was in final draft form and was due to go out to all institutions involved in the training of secondary school teachers. It told institutions that although the DES emphasised on main subject specialism, that shortages in secondary schools would mean that future teachers would have to take classes in a second or subsidiary subject.

The circular says that some institutions will be offering a sufficient range of main subjects so that students will have no difficulty in selecting an appropriate addition.

Others, however, will now be offering only a few main subjects and will have to extend the range of subjects available. I am inviting those institutions to make proposals for the subjects to be included in

Privy Council's case spelled out

by Patricia Santinelli

The Department of Education and Science has replied, on behalf of the Privy Council, to lecturers' fears that the council is trying to remove academic tenure.

Mr K. D. J. Root, a principal at the department, has written to the Association of University Teachers to clarify the council's reasons for opposing statute changes at the Institute of Education, London, and the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Mr Root says ministers are concerned that universities should realise the full implications of taking on staff they cannot dismiss for reasons of redundancy. "While the universities are so heavily dependent upon public finance they must be able to

Social science degree axed

by Olga Wojtas

Scottish Correspondent
The Scottish Education Department is to axe Paisley College of Technology's social science degree and is also considering transferring its social studies courses to other institutions.

The college's official reaction has been laconic, simply that wide-ranging discussion are being held on the implications of the decision, but staff are astonished by the attack on one of their most successful subject areas.

A statement by the Association of Lecturers in Scottish Central Institutions says many members of staff "are convinced the decision is politically motivated, in keeping the remarks by Sir Keith (the Secretary of State for Education and Science) alleging long-winded bias in the social sciences".

It adds that it is widely known that Professor John Foster, head of the politics and sociology department, is a member of the Communist Party. It is thought there is some embarrassment within the SED over the decision. A formal letter to the college says the move is part of the

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Ball outlines NAB course plans

The present system of detailed course approval in polytechnics and colleges was "cumbersome, slow, and inefficient", Mr Christopher Ball, chairman of the board of the National Advisory Body, said this week.

He told a London conference organized by the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education that once the NAB had given institutions approval for broad programmes of work and targets they should be free to mount particular courses without seeking further permission, except for validation.

Mr Ball said that it would then be up to those who supported the present detailed system of individual course approvals to justify its continued existence.

He listed five other areas of immediate activity: building effective working relations with other bodies concerned with planning higher and further education; establishing a strong regional dimension; creating an effective partnership with validating bodies; restructuring the NAB's own working groups; and devising a sceptical research policy for the non-university sector.

In particular the planning of initial teacher training had to be brought into phase with the planning of other

subjects, and the NAB had to be given say over the allocation of capital expenditure to build a proper research policy.

Mr Ball emphasized four themes: decentralization of the NAB's work to regional and validating bodies; deregulation of local authority higher education to permit greater institutional freedom; the urgent need for longer, three-year, planning and funding horizons; the need to maintain "an overview of all higher education" which implied closer liaison with the universities.

The apparently inexorable trend towards two-year degree courses is gaining further impetus. In a discussion document the Council for National Academic Awards will call on institutions to consider the proposal.

Dr Edwin Kerr, the CNA's chief officer said that the document, which is still to be circulated, would draw attention to the restraints on spending, the desire to increase the participation rate and the consequent need to reduce spending per student. "One way would be to establish something less than the three-year full-time course as the norm for Britain's students," he said.

It would be necessary to examine carefully the relationship between

two-year awards and other awards, their marketing, and quality.

The CNA would insist on a clearly-defined relationship between different awards, proper financial support, two-year awards on both sides of the binary line, credit transfer and academic counselling.

Dr Kerr raised the spectre of some colleges and higher institutions giving up three-year honours work and research if two-year awards became established.

"Ought they to be doing diplomas or two-year degrees with progression upwards from such institutions to polytechnics and the major institutions of higher education?"

Summing up, Dr Kerr said: "I think this is a possibility, if we take it seriously, for increasing access, attracting people on to shorter courses who will not be attracted to the current long courses - but not as a substitute for the existing honours courses."

Dr George Tolley, former principal of Sheffield City Polytechnic, and director of the MSC Open Tech Unit, also threw his weight behind two-year degrees.

He warned: "In the absence of far-reaching and rapid change, decline and instability are inevitable."



From pin up...



to girl next door...



Leader, back page

Tolley's qualified argument

by Jon Turney
Science Correspondent

People using professional qualifications should have to keep their knowledge up to date, Dr George Tolley, director of the Open Tech, told the Royal Society of Chemistry's annual congress at Lancaster University last week.

Speaking in the society's education division, Dr Tolley suggested that those who failed to do so should have their professional registration withdrawn. It is time that positive education was introduced into the professions of this country, he said.

In discussion after his address, some present agreed with Dr Tolley's stance in principle, although it was pointed out that chemists did not have to register with the Royal Society of Chemistry in order to practice, except in a few highly specialized areas.

However, Dr Tolley explained after the meeting that his comments were intended to apply to all the professions. "If a professional body is there to put a hallmark on professional competence, that hallmark has got to be kept bright and shining," he said.

There was as yet no statutory responsibility on a chemist or an engineer to maintain registration, but this could change. And while the Open Tech would not press for compulsory continuing education, its job was to provide the facilities to make this possible.

Tony Ashmore, the Royal Society of Chemistry's education officer, said that the society already ran some well-attended short courses for industrial chemists, and a number of universities and colleges had begun short courses in chemistry in the last few years. But there would be problems agreeing who should pay for continuing education if there was any move to make it a professional requirement. The society already found that public sector employers were poor supporters of their short courses, which cost £250 per week per student.

Leader, back page

High overseas fees policy 'a disaster'

There has been a disastrous deterioration in relations with friendly countries and a result of startlingly high overseas fees, Professor Ralph Quirk, vice-chancellor of London University, said this week.

Professor Quirk, opening a special nineteenth conference of school directors, said the damage was particularly noticeable in the medical field.

Although the Government had recognized the seriousness of the problem with the "Pym Package" of February, much more had to be done to repair the damage.

It was not just a matter of enabling more of the right overseas students to come, or even level of fees towards a less draconian level of fees for overseas students in general.

But great damage had been caused to the universities because of the overseas "extractions" of £1000. Recognising was left to the universities with minimum fees and market forces, there was still a gap of about £500 by which the universities were worse off.

"We are gravely disappointed that the part expected of us and the funds are found to bridge the gap between the so-called economic fees and the fees we are actually charging."

Professor Quirk said that the reason of its central role in overseas education the University of London was hit with especial gravity by the overseas fees extraction.

He said that any lowering of fees would actually exacerbate the situation London found itself in.

Sir Keith backs SERC

by Jon Turney
Science Correspondent

The Science and Engineering Research Council has won the backing of Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, in its bid to persuade the Treasury to protect the science budget from movements in currency exchange rates.

Sir Keith agreed to intercede on the SERC's behalf after initial approaches to the Treasury failed. A final decision now depends on how the Chancellor of the Exchequer responds to a letter from Sir Keith.

The SERC has faced a cash deficit since the pound's plunge last autumn because it pays millions of pounds in subscriptions to foreign laboratories, notably the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in

Geneva.

The Treasury argues that the SERC profits when the pound is strong, and should be prepared to make up the shortfall when movements go against it. But council members are anxious to secure some protection against violent short-term fluctuations, which wreck plans for science spending. At the moment, the SERC needs to find around £10m extra for subscription charges due to overseas organizations next year.

This is already creating severe problems for the framing of this year's forward look, submitted to the Advisory Board for the Research Councils, and it appears that the uncertainty about money will last well into the summer.

Last year, ABRC awarded the SERC extra money for new initia-

tives in information technology and space. It may now have to find between £4m and £5m before next April, which would swallow up half the new money.

The council is trying to find ways of raising this sum, but fears that making such large savings so quickly would damage many programmes. Even if no immediate help comes from the Treasury, the SERC will now argue more strongly that it must find some new arrangement for foreign currency payments in the long term or else the programme will become unmanageable.

One possibility is a compromise arrangement whereby the SERC is not insulated entirely from currency movements, but receives extra money or pays back some of its allocation if exchange rates shift beyond an agreed threshold.

Among patrons of the group, which is on the left of the party, are Cabinet ministers Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr James Prior, Mr Francis Pym and Mr William Whitelaw.

Mr Neil Stewart, president of the National Union of Students, welcomed the document, repeating his

challenge to the Conservatives to dare to put loans in their election manifesto. "This must be the final nail in the coffin for Sir Keith Joseph's loans proposals if his own party is so openly divided on it," he said.

The group's chairman, Mr Stephen Moon, warned that loans would lead to a general lowering of educational standards. Able students from poor backgrounds would be replaced by less able students more prepared to risk debt, the group says. This "clear misallocation" of resources would almost certainly lead to a fall in standards.

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Tory Reform Group opposes student loans

by David Jobbins

The Tory Reform Group has firmly declared its total opposition to the introduction of student loans.

A pamphlet by Mr Chris Jarvis, a member of the group executive and research assistant to Mr Chris Patten, MP for Bath, concludes: "All the available evidence suggests that replacing grants with loans would save the Government only a small proportion of its spending on student support, and this only in the long term. In the short term costs would actually rise."

"All the evidence suggests that the social cost... would be considerable. The results of changing the system would be to reduce working class access to higher education... and to produce a new class of poor graduates. This indirect damage to society caused by these developments may be even more serious," he adds.

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How statistics can figure in a changing world

Outliers, two-armed bandits, time-series, life hours and even railway lines all featured in star roles at the 150th annual conference of the Manchester Statistical Society last week.

Distinguished statisticians from business and academia gathered at Manchester University to mark the anniversary of Britain's oldest statistical society and discuss ways of promoting technical change.

Sir Charles Carter, head of the research department of the Poffey Studies Institute, called for greater understanding of industry and commerce among teachers, closer links between higher education and industry, and more relevant training for the 16-19 age group.

In a paper on the speed of technical change, Sir Charles said British industry had reached a half-way mark in making use of new technology. A survey by the PSI showed about 50 per cent of manufacturers had found "process applications" and about one quarter "product applications".

But, Sir Charles said, this was more a sign of awareness than saturation and he urged the Government to encourage technical change by setting a good example, by promoting the flow of international ideas and by changing the habits of the

education system.

Professor Edmond Mullaivaad, head of the Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques in Paris, and a renowned statistical scholar, wondered if too many statistics were now being collected.

He asked if official statisticians should not spend more time interpreting and analysing the material collected, although this raised the spectre of more official "value-added" work being published.

Another paper came from Sir Bruce Williams, director of the Technical Change Centre, who discussed the idea of life hours in the labour force - the number of hours spent in work. He said for all workers life hours had fallen by one third between 1980 and 1975.

Professor Maurice Priestley, of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, described the development of time-series analysis - the record of any fluctuating value at different points in time, now an increasingly common statistical tool.

Other papers dealt with the railways after the recent Serpell Report and the restructuring of British Steel, both analysing questions of efficiency. Sir William Barlow, chairman of Thorn EMI

engineering group, said he felt industry was becoming more efficient after some pretty hard lessons.

Professor Tony Lewis of the Open University, discussed "outliers", those observations in any sample that cause problems because they lie far away from the main mass. While Professor John Hather inched "two-norm handles", mathematical problems with a series of alternative means, important particularly in medical trials.

The MSS was the first of its kind set up in Britain in September 1933, following societies in Dresden (1836) and Sidney (1833) and six months before the London Statistical Society, now the Royal Statistical Society.

It aims to promote discussion between town and gown. Mr Richard Harrington, a vice president, and economist lecturer at Manchester University, said the society was set up as the model for the new era of statistical gathering.

"When the society started there was next to no official statistics. But there was increasing interest in data relating to economics and social science. That interest has of course grown exponentially this century."

Ex-president wants executive seat back

by David Jobbins

A former president of the college lecturers' union is to fight for election to the union's national executive although he has moved to a new region and has become deputy director of a polytechnic.

Dr Peter Knight, who represents the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education on the National Advisory Body on public sector higher education, said: "Speculation about my political death was premature."

Last autumn it appeared that Dr Knight, then at Plymouth Polytechnic and representing the south west region on the NAFHE executive, might not seek to continue after his move to Preston Polytechnic. But he has now been picked by his new region to stand in this year's executive elections.

The outcome of the voting is likely to be known early next month and there will be several new faces.

A number of long-serving executive members are not seeking re-election, including at least two prominent inner London representatives - Mr John Bullitt and Mr Jim Richardson.

In the past there has been criticism of inner London's alleged over-representation and on the new executive the region could be reduced to two seats.

All of NAFHE's 14 regions have at least one representative on the executive, which is elected from and by the union's national council. A further 11 seats are not tied to a particular region.

The opportunity is at hand for the right wing to make up ground at the expense of the Broad Left.

'Placebos' being doled out

Perhaps the greatest "success" of the Government's response to unemployment is that public expectations have been lowered, and unemployment is more widely accepted as being here to stay.

This is one of the main conclusions in a newly-published paper, *Unemployment in the UK: Government policies in perspective* by Mr Jeremy Moon of Strathclyde University's politics department.

Direct responses to unemployment are rather like placebos, having no long-term curative properties, but enabling the patient to come to terms with what may be an incurable disease, says Mr Moon.

The present Government has acted to remove as many people as possible from the unemployment register. This enables it to answer those who accuse it of doing nothing, while allowing it to pursue its own priorities such as reducing inflation, controlling public expenditure and personal taxation, increasing productivity, and reducing the power of the trades unions, he says.

The Youth Training Scheme being launched in September, designed to provide a year's training and work experience for 16-year-old school-leavers and unemployed 17-year-olds, will remove about 400,000 young people from the unemployment register.

This is a first step in a process of abolishing the expectation that 16-year-old school-leavers should go straight into work, says Mr Moon.

Similarly, he says, the community programme, which is a job creation scheme for 18-year-olds and over, should attract about 200,000 of the long-term unemployed between this year and next.

It encourages part-time participation in the scheme, enabling the Government to remove a greater number of people from the register at a lower cost than was possible under previous job creation schemes.

Unemployment in the UK: Government policies in perspective by Jeremy Moon. Strathclyde Papers on Government and Politics No. 6, £3.

New racial quotas cause anger wave

from Craig Charney

JOHANNESBURG A storm of protest has erupted in South Africa's English-speaking white universities over proposed legislation to establish racial quotas for university admissions.

The Bill, now before parliament, would enable the minister in charge of white education to limit the percentage of students from South Africa's black majority at the nine residential universities under his control.

In an unusually strong move, the vice chancellors of the English-medium universities of Cape Town, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Rhodes and the Witwatersrand voiced their opposition to a joint statement earlier this month. They declared: "The proposed system would not remove the defects associated with a racially discriminatory system, nor would it restore to the universities the right to determine their admission of students."

The vice chancellors' statement concluded: "A university should be able to determine the terms on which it appoints staff and admits students. The only proper grounds for admission are academic and not race, colour, or creed."

The statement followed another by the senate of Witwatersrand (Wits) University, representing academic staff, which rejected the new scheme. The senate noted that it would place the onus on the universities to reject qualified black students who applied in greater numbers than the quota, forcing them to assist in the practice of racial discrimination.

Mass student protest meetings

have been held on the English campuses and the National Union of South African Students has declared its opposition.

The new system will replace one set up in 1959, when the government forced the English universities to end their colour-blind admissions policies by law.

Black students could be admitted only after receiving ministerial consent on a case-by-case basis.

The proposed legislation has disappointed the universities, whose hopes were raised by the report of the official De Lange committee on education in 1982. De Lange called on the government to return control of admissions policy to university councils.

The real significance of the new legislation is unclear. It comes in the wake of the white minority government's acknowledgement of the need for a larger university-trained black workforce to meet the demands of the economy and its failure to repudiate the Wits academic plan, which calls for the university to become half black by the year 2000.

The authorities have also appeared to become more liberal in granting black students ministerial exemption as their proportion at the English-medium universities rose by more than 10 per cent since 1959.

Opponents of the plan warn it could be used to punish universities which incur official wrath by cutting quotas, or to favour certain races and bar others. Their warnings have been emphasized by the ministerial clampdown on African student admissions to the white universities this year.

Bulgaria puts clamp on student sponsors

by a Special Correspondent

Bulgarian industrial managers who sponsor university students but cannot ensure they may soon be expected to reimburse the state for educating them.

The new labour law in Bulgaria, the subject of lively debate in the media and party organizations, lays great stress on the proper deployment of graduates and in particular the contractual nature of their education and first jobs.

Educational reforms now being implemented in Bulgaria strictly tailor university intake to the estimated needs of the state in five years' time. Theoretically this means every graduate can be assured of a job in his or her appropriate field.

Job placement now begins at the end of the fourth year so that during their final 18 months students follow a sandwich course, spending part of their time at their future work place. Available jobs are advertised on college notice boards at the end of the fourth year, and the most popular appointments - which are those with the best fringe benefits - naturally go to the best students. In theory, however, a professional post in the relevant field will be found for every graduate. Those who refuse to take up these posts can be required to repay the cost of their education.

The new system was introduced in 1978, and the first placements were made last summer for students due to graduate in 1983/84. A number of enterprises and institutes refused to provide the required number of jobs, saying they had no vacancies after all.

Subsequent enquiries revealed that the organizations concerned had submitted false returns on future requirements to help students they were interested in gain admission to university or technical college.

As the graduates concerned were not primarily responsible for the situation, the new labour law urges that the managements who made the false returns should be charged the "wasted" education costs.

potential global holocaust. Hence the recent series of UN "disarmament sessions", encouraged by the inability of the super powers to curb, let alone control, their armament industries. The proposal pursued by the Science for Peace committee has now been turned into a detailed technological, legal and financial development plan by a UN-appointed international group of government specialists.

During the past decade, satellites have been used increasingly for identifying military targets, predicting weather conditions, facilitating communications and measuring natural resources.

At present, only the United States and the Soviet Union possess the technology related specifically to military satellites. But many other countries, including Canada, members of the EEC, China and Japan are engaged in relevant remote-sensing space programmes.

the establishment of its projected space monitoring agency.

Military satellites deployed in the cause of peace would detect violations of arms control accords and serve as a deterrent to violations by increasing the risk of exposure. They would also give early warning of developing armed confrontations and help in the prevention and management of international crises. The process would contribute to confidence building among the nations at a cost well under one per cent of the world's annual expenditure on armaments.

Since the dawn of the space age in 1957, the super powers have failed to agree on the peaceful use of satellites. A UN committee including the United States and the Soviet Union managed to accept a verbal formula by 1962 - but the talks have coincided with the emergence of military space technology as an instrument of

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Tight-lipped and tight-fisted

by Niall Creghier

The University Grants Committee ought to be more open, but it was limited by resources, Sir Edward

Parkes, its chairman, said last week. Sir Edward told the annual meeting of the Standing Conference of University Information Officers: "It would be a good thing if the UGC took a more public stance and provided more information as to what it is doing. There is no lack of will, but a grave lack of resources." There has been a 30 per cent cut in resources during the period of his chairmanship, plus a growth of responsibilities, he added.

He said the convention at the root of the accusations of secrecy was that they did not discuss individual universities, either with the press or the Secretary of State for Education. Universities were very frank with the UGC, a frankness that rested on that convention.

He said the UGC relied on "informed prejudice" for its views. This did not mean it judged universities according to which institutions its members came from, or because of the labels attached to universities.

Sir Edward said there was a "common truth" about the 1981 cuts, which had been purveyed to the Government, that the cuts had been based on out-of-date information. It was naive to think the UGC got its information from visitations.

He ran through the different avenues of information. There were systematic institutional links, most recent of which were the half-day dialogues which had been held twice during the last three years.

The UGC secretariat had territorial and subject responsibilities. Vice chancellors, registrars and chairs of councils all dropped in to the UGC headquarters.

Although both main and subject committees visited institutions they rarely had any immediate, operational effect. Instead, "the committee is used as a vehicle in which one part of the university can talk to another," he said.

The committee also talked to the research councils, employers, trades councils, professional bodies, campus unions, learned societies, Government departments and Parliament.

Sir Edward said there was a controversy raging over the extent to which the UGC should direct universities. He said most universities favoured a block grant with minimum advice and most departments favoured an earmarked grant.

The problem was becoming more acute because of the emphasis on research. The research lobby believed that university teaching got an unfair share of the cake.

Sir Edward would only admit to one personal regret about the 1981 cuts. He said that they gave slightly greater resources to the physical sciences and slightly less to the biological sciences than was justified.

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Seconds count - Maths student Gerry Helme (above), of City of Liverpool College, came second in the London Marathon last Sunday, with a finishing time of two hours, 10 minutes and 12 seconds - 28 seconds behind the winner. Gerry said: "I lost the race when I began slipping on the cobbles around the Tower of London. Mike Gratton got away then."

Of the 18,981 original entries registered by the organizers, the third largest category after engineers and others contained 1,469 teachers and lecturers, closely followed by 748 students.

As the London marathon got under way 24 student cricketers at Heriot-Watt University began their own to establish a new entry for the Guinness Book of Records when they successfully completed a 24-hour non-stop cricket marathon for charity.

But it stresses that the aim of such cooperation and coordination must not be to make the web of help so finely spun that it emulates the young person totally but to ensure that young people can call on the help they need at the time they need it.

"In the end if young people are to be encouraged to take responsibility for their own lives which we have urged to have the right to call or reject help as they wish," the report says.

"(Towards a Personal Guidance Base by John Miller, Bryce Taylor, and A. G. Watts of NICEC, published by FEU. Copies available free from Publication Dispatch Centre, Department of Education and Science, Honeywell Lane, Conans Park, Stanmore, Middx HA7 1AZ).

The report gives a range of examples of inter-agency collaboration. Some involve a number of agencies working closely together in a single location, some a particular agency being given a coordinating role, while others involve inter-agency training across projects.

arts has been far more central and forceful in German twentieth century philosophy than in British philosophy.

The first lecture on Heidegger given by Gregory Des Jardins, a visiting lecturer to Warwick University from the USA, attracted more than 50 people. Future lectures include those given by Torrey Eagleton, a fellow at Wadham, Oxford, on Walter Benjamin of the Frankfurt School, Julian Roberts, from Cam-

bridge College of Technology on the sociologist Theodor Adorno and Heinz Lubasz of Essex University will be lecturing on Marcuse.

The extra-mural department is also to hold a weekend school in this topic during the middle of May.

British philosophers encouraged to think Continental

The first in a course of lectures being run by London University's extra-mural department in association with the British Society of Aesthetics has proved a success.

The popularity of the course on Modern German Philosophy and the Arts is another sign that continental philosophers are becoming more influential in this country, set against the Oxford analytic school which has dominated British philosophy for several decades.

The society, founded in 1960, has reflected this dominance until recently when it approached the extra-mural department to see if it would mount a series of lectures which reflected some of the thinkers in the continental tradition.

The course organizer, Carolyn Wilde, said: "British philosophy is very linguistic and analytic and we thought that it should be broadened out for people. The debate about the social and political role of the



Political operation - striking medical students occupied the Arc de Triomphe in Paris last week to publicize their objection to a new sixth-year exam. Their two-month-old stoppage is backed by hospital doctors who walked out three weeks ago in protest against government reforms aimed at reducing their numbers, which have trebled in the past 20 years.

\$50m boost for Soviet studies fund

from E. Patrick McQuaid

CAMBRIDGE Legislation has been introduced in both chambers of the United States Congress to bolster research and understanding of the Soviet Union with a \$50m endowment. Interest earned on the money would fund projects already underway as well as launch new initiatives at three existing institutions which conduct research on Eastern bloc affairs.

The new bill is the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983. The three institutions earmarked for the funds are the National Council for Soviet and East European Research, the Smithsonian Institution's Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, and the International Research and Exchanges Board. The last was established by the American Council of Learned Societies in New York to manage exchanges between American, Soviet and East European institutions.

The former American ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr W. Averell Harriman, who last year donated \$10m to Columbia University for the establishment of a Soviet studies centre observed that such scholarship enjoyed only sporadic encouragement, with the government "feeding its growth one year and starving it the next".

The funds would go to finance a series of fellowships at graduate and post-doctoral levels for advanced training in policy issues and questions of Soviet and East European development and establish a national clearing house on Soviet-related research. It would also provide money for seminars and for visits to these countries.

Cash chaos halts enrolment

from James Hutchinson

BONN

One of West Germany's biggest universities, the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt which has nearly 30,000 students, has stopped further enrolment for the 1983/84 winter term because of a cash shortage. It has imposed a *numerus clausus* for all subjects.

This drastic and unique step follows the failure of the state government of Hesse, a minority administration, to bring its budget through parliament. According to the university, this means that its financial resources would be cut by a third.

The government, run by the Social Democrats, condemned the univer-

sity's action as an "unnecessary spectacle". There was no cause for panic, it insisted, since the government would ensure that the state's universities and other centres of higher education could continue to function properly.

But the Christian Democrat opposition has accused the government of pursuing an educational policy that was bound to lead to chaos. The universities, it pointed out, were being urged to take on more and more students while there was a ban on the further recruitment of staff.

The Christian Democrats claimed there was not enough money to buy books or to repair technical equipment, while research at the state universities had been at a standstill for a long time.

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NOTICE BOARD

Grants

Durham
Dr C. J. Jones, £11,162 from the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust (CF studies); Dr R. S. Ellis, £55,702 from the US Army (immunology); Professor Rosemary J. Cramp, grants of £3,391 and £1,466 (archaeological research).

Essex
Professor K. W. Cattermole, £562,500 from British Telecom (telecommunications engineering); Professor D. J. Barber, £40,200 from the SERC (economics in microelectronics); Dr C. Scaworth, £2,297 from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (airborne radioactivity); Professor A. King/Professor I. Crewe, £2,235 from the Nuffield Foundation (piece of SDP in UK politics).

Hull
Dr H. J. Baker, £22,700 from the SERC (laser studies); Dr C. Ratledge, £46,220 from the Medical Research Council (tuberculosis bacteria).

Newcastle upon Tyne
Professor K. G. M. Alberti, £4,000 from the British Diabetic Association (diabetes mellitus); Professor D. E. Roberts, £66,080 from the Multiple Sclerosis Society (genetics factors in MS); Dr J. M. Davidson and Professor W. Dunlop, £11,040 from the Medical Research Council (kidney disorders in pregnancy); Dr G. L. Tans, £13,000 from the Leukemia Research Fund (tumour response in children); Professor J. I. Carr, £20,577 from the NERC (hydrothermal circulation); Dr M. Carr, £20,275 from the SERC (education); Dr L. L. Buxton, Dr P. W. Fenney and Dr J. G. Gomers, £15,000 collectively from the SERC/British Shipbuilders (economics of shipbuilding).

Honorary degrees

Newcastle upon Tyne
DLitt Quentin Bell, FRSA, FRSL, Emeritus Professor of History and Theory of Art, Sussex University.
MA: Thomas H. Bueh, Head of Composition Department, National Union of Musicworkers, 1946-1970; member of University Councils, 1971-1981; Catherine Cookson, authoress and philanthropist.

Fellowships

London, King's College
The following have been elected fellows of the college: Mr L. T. Cotton FRCS, dean of King's College Hospital Medical School; Revd R. D. Harris, Dean of King's College; Professor C. W. King, professor of mathematics, Mathematics Department, University of Newcastle upon Tyne; Dr F. C. Newman, managing director, BXL Chemicals, a former student; Professor P. A. Oulton, professor of French language and literature, King's; Professor S. R. Sutherland, professor of history and philosophy of religion, King's College.

Forthcoming Events

The annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at the University of Sussex from August 22 to 26. This year's four major themes, integrated with symposia and visits, will be: disaster, science in Europe, science policy studies, and land use and resource exploitation. Details are available from 01 734 6010 (x341) or 0273 609735 (x185).



The Swiss writer, Adolf Muschg, will be giving his first readings and lectures in Britain next week. Muschg is author of *The Blue Man* and other stories published by Carcanet and is Professor of German Language and Literature at the Swiss Institute of Technology in Zurich. He will be at the Goethe Institute, Manchester on May 4, and at the ICA, London, on May 2.

Appointments

Universities
City
Director of Centre for Banking and International Finance: Mr Z. Rees.
Lectureships: Mr W. D. Fraser (property valuation and management); Mr M. Girdham (marketing); Dr S. A. Heffernan (export management and international business); Mr H. Ousefield (optometry and visual science); Mr B. T. Sturges (evening MBA programme).

Durham
Senior lectureships: Dr M. A. Armstrong (mathematical sciences); Dr D. C. Clancy (academic teaching and students); Dr J. E. R. H. Greaves (pure mathematics); Dr G. Reynolds (management studies and operations research); Dr W. A. Venables (microbiology); Dr C. J. Mettiam (zoology); Dr A. I. Cella (electrical engineering); Dr G. A. Kington (mineral exploitation); Dr M. Benjamin (anatomy); Dr J. P. Kibula (extra-mural studies); Mr J. C. Jones (education); Mr J. T. C. Richards (education).

Wales
University College, Cardiff
Senior lectureships: Dr R. A. Stradling (history); Mr J. R. Edwards (economics); Dr G. R. H. Greaves (pure mathematics); Dr J. E. Reynolds (management studies and operations research); Dr W. A. Venables (microbiology); Dr C. J. Mettiam (zoology); Dr A. I. Cella (electrical engineering); Dr G. A. Kington (mineral exploitation); Dr M. Benjamin (anatomy); Dr J. P. Kibula (extra-mural studies); Mr J. C. Jones (education); Mr J. T. C. Richards (education).

Heriot-Watt
Lectureship: S. P. Mele (building).

London
Readerships: Jonathan Charles Coleman (medical virology - Charing Cross Hospital Medical School); Paul Fearing, GAE (general practice - St George's Hospital Medical School); Michael Andrew Preece (child health and growth - Institute of Child Health); Dr Rachel Rosser (psychiatry - Charing Cross Hospital Medical School); Dr Robert Charles Schroter (physiological mechanics - Imperial College of Science and Technology); Dr A. Lucy Shelham (community dental health - London Hospital Medical College).

Newcastle upon Tyne

Lectures: Dr S. McIlwain (anatomy); Dr R. Griffiths (plant biology).

Opeo
Mr David Grueven has been appointed as the Open University's pro-vice-chancellor (academic teaching and students). He will be responsible for teaching policy relating to the work of 5,000 part-time academic tutors and counsellors as well as having an "ombudsman" role for students.

Wales
University College, Cardiff
Senior lectureships: Dr R. A. Stradling (history); Mr J. R. Edwards (economics); Dr G. R. H. Greaves (pure mathematics); Dr J. E. Reynolds (management studies and operations research); Dr W. A. Venables (microbiology); Dr C. J. Mettiam (zoology); Dr A. I. Cella (electrical engineering); Dr G. A. Kington (mineral exploitation); Dr M. Benjamin (anatomy); Dr J. P. Kibula (extra-mural studies); Mr J. C. Jones (education); Mr J. T. C. Richards (education).

Colleges
Professor Neil K. Buxton, at present professor in the department of economics, Heriot-Watt University, has been appointed deputy director of the Glasgow College of Technology.

General
Dr James Kearns, lecturer in the University of Dundee's department of modern languages, has been appointed Leverhulme Visiting Lecturer at the British Institute in Paris for the academic year 1983-1984.

Open University programmes April 23 to April 29

Saturday April 23		Wednesday April 27	
09.00	Evolution. The Evolution of Fishes (S34; prog 5).	09.00	19th Century England: a changing culture. Architecture and Society 3: "The God That Failed" (A203; prog 5).
09.30	Science, 478-536c. The Acropolis of Athens (A202; prog 5).	09.30	19th Century England: a changing culture. Architecture and Society 3: "The God That Failed" (A203; prog 5).
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41.00	Science, 478-536c. The Acropolis of Athens (A202; prog 5).	41.00	19th Century England: a changing culture. Architecture and Society 3: "The God That Failed" (A203; prog 5).
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Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones looks at neoconservatism as it affects United States foreign policy

Reagan's resistance movement

It seems self-contradictory to speak of a "new" conservatism. Yet in the United States a "new country" whose inhabitants display an insatiable appetite for "new, improved" commodities, "neoconservatism" is today an ideology to be reckoned with, a force in the domestic and international affairs of one country that affects us all, wherever we happen to live.

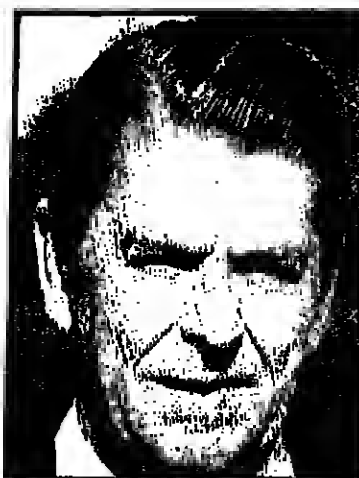
One characteristic of neoconservative belief is the conviction that the perfidiousness of Soviet foreign policy has varied little over the years. There has never been a need to deviate from the one correct policy for America to follow, namely steadfast resistance to the spread of Russian imperialist communism in the Third World, and an even more resolute defence of the security of the United States and her allies. President Reagan proudly reminds us that he has held these views since the 1950s, never having changed his mind on foreign policy when it was tempting to do so in the liberal 1960s. Détente was a mistake according to Reagan and other neoconservatives and never existed except as a dangerous illusion in the minds of liberals who had forgotten the lesson of Munich. The neoconservatives suggest, then, that changes in American foreign policy have been responses not to international affairs, but to domestic opinion in their own country.

A second characteristic of neoconservative belief is the view that there should be a reduction in governmental expenditure. There are two aspects to this opinion, firstly, a suspicion of central power vested in the federal government in Washington, DC, secondly, a supposition that the American economy flourishes in inverse proportion to the degree of governmental activity and expenditure. "Deregulation", the stripping away of federal planning controls, is one of the battle-cries of the neoconservatives.

Deregulation, it is held, will strengthen the American economy and secure the nation from various threats to its security and autonomy, whether emanating from OPEC or the arms race.

Here it is worth dwelling briefly on the changing relative stances of "liberals" and "conservatives". It is widely maintained that, until the second decade of this century, American liberals resisted the growth of federal governmental power, associating it with capitalistic abuses and Old World tyranny.

Then, partly as a result of a vigorous 1912 election campaign by the charismatic ex-President Theodore



Kennedy, Reagan and Kirkpatrick: sheep in wolves' clothing?

Roosevelt, liberals realized they could use federal (ie national) power for their own ends. Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt were liberal, Democratic presidents who forcefully pursued liberal goals in both domestic and international affairs.

Since 1945 (according to received political and academic opinion), a second "crossroads of liberalism" has been reached and traversed, at least in the realm of foreign policy. During the Vietnam War, Watergate scandals, and the mid-1970s debate over the CIA, liberals once again became wary of governmental (especially presidential) power, whether exercised at home or abroad. On the other side of the political spectrum, President Reagan is the very personification, if by no means the most extreme example, of a neoconservative who demands a vigorous foreign policy. Massive savings in domestic expenditure and deregulation in the domestic economy are to be, indeed are being, more than amply offset by an escalation in military expenditure, and a tighter grip on the affairs of foreign countries.

Whereas liberal internationalist presidents fought against the Right, the "autocratic", "imperialistic" Aostrohungarian Empire and, later, Nazi Germany, neoconservative internationalists seek to contain the Left, communist Russia, communist Cuba, and all countries, factions, and individuals, thought to be aligned with them.

Neoconservatives do not believe in (as they see it) liberal nonsense, in being nice to detestable people who won't like you anyway. They declare that they would fight the communists if necessary, and, in the meantime, will resist them through lobbying in the United Nations, through Central

Intelligence Agency operations, through the arms race and through any other rational means at their disposal.

To round off our lexicon of political words with changing meanings, it is worth noting that traditional "isolationism" has been abandoned. Those who for over a century argued that America should remain free of "entanglement alliances" have lost their long battle for aloofness. Isolationists in America can no longer describe themselves as conservatives, because the new conservatives believe in the concept of a world struggle. Their vocabulary consists of new words, "globalism", "alliance diplomacy", and "unilateralism" (the latter denoting, in Americanese, the build-up of massive US strength, so that the United States may act independently of her allies - perhaps the last, paradoxical flourish of traditional isolationism). These words describe different policies, but all these policies assume the existence of a global struggle.

There is no very satisfying synthesis about who the neoconservatives are. Some of them are old models with reconditioned engines. Perhaps Reagan fits into this category.

But the fastest lap times have been recorded by a different breed, the new intellectuals. Former Marxists are numbered among the more phrenetic new intellectuals. The very senior professor who admonishes students and younger colleagues "Don't tell me about Marx; I know him back to front, my boy, and he was the greatest mistake of my life" is a feature of American, as well as British, campuses.

In some cases, the cold war, McCarthyism and old age have wrought transformations; in others, the proselytizing, extremist and in-

tolerant personality has remained constant, as has the register of political vocabulary. Only the audience and the bogeymen have changed.

Some liberals, too, are held to have gone into a kind of reverse thrust. In *The Neoconservatives* (1979), Peter Steinfels maintains that Senator Daniel P. Moynihan is an archetypal neoconservative. In his foretelling book *A Dangerous Place* (1978), Moynihan stated that democracy is under threat; the United States should promote worldwide liberty with greater vigour. Previously, Moynihan had been a liberal in domestic politics, and even a mild critic of the Vietnam war, before joining President Nixon's team.

In the past, American conservatives have been variously labelled: populist, practical, unintellectual, even anti-intellectual.

In *The Conservative Intellectual Movement in America Since 1945* (1976), George H. Nash rejected any such labelling of the new conservatives. He regarded liberals as "doctrinaire", for example in their "automatic" opposition to European colonialism in Africa.

Liberals were wrong to think of conservatives as "wildly simplistic and irresponsible". Conservatives now drew respectable academic support from such groves of academe as the Center for Strategic Studies in Georgetown, Washington, DC, the Hoover Institution, Stanford, California, and the Foreign Policy Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. Nash is undoubtedly correct in observing that a significant number of professional academics is to be found in the ranks of the neoconservatives.

world-wide impact. But the academic who epitomizes the neoconservative stance on foreign affairs is former domestic politics, Milton Friedman and his followers have supplied the neoconservative politicians with some of their arguments. Friedmanite policies in the United States and elsewhere have, of course, as Jeane Kirkpatrick, Reagan's appointee to the US Ambassadorship at the United Nations.

Since she began work at the UN, Kirkpatrick has been one of the most forceful and controversial spokeswomen of the Reagan administration. She argues that the Soviet Union has successfully orchestrated UN opinion against the United States. Though the United States contributed a billion dollars to the UN budget, American influence there has been trivial. Kirkpatrick argues that the United States should use both financial power and intellectual persuasion to redress the balance; to correct the Soviet portrayal of world politics to class-orientated, rich-versus-poor terms.

A final characteristic of the neoconservatives is their concentration in the "Sunbelt" regions, extending from Florida along the Gulf of Mexico, via Texas and Arizona, to California on the Pacific Coast. Senator Barry Goldwater, a former Governor of California, The Sunbelt regions have been burgeoning demographically (attracting voters and becoming more powerful), and economically

abroad, but in terms of the palpable failure of liberal policies, combined perhaps with the emergence of a more articulate exposition of the conservative point of view. The liberal rejoinder would be that President Carter bungled what were essentially sensible and humane policies, or that liberal candidates in the 1980 elections were the victims of that seemingly inevitable left-right pendulum swing in American politics.

In future, political scientists and historians will no doubt engage in endless speculation about the rise of neoconservatism.

It seems harsh to stress the incompetence of President Carter, who had the daunting task of pursuing liberal policies in a disillusioned America. Liberal intellectuals seemed to be suffering from anomie, perhaps occasioned by the economic slump, and by the recollection that the university protests of the 1960s had occasioned sharp anti-academic feelings resulting in severe higher-education expenditure cuts. Indeed, intellectuals at the Hoover Institution had drawn attention to the latter possibility at the time of the anti-Vietnam War protests, some of which raged outside their own building.

Perhaps because of the liberal intellectuals' anomie, the neoconservative doctrines of the 1970s escaped the sceptical scrutiny their antecedents had suffered from during the Goldwater presidential candidacy of 1964. It is not as if the liberals' armoury were not littered with potential barbs: as Steinfels points out, anti-governmental intellectuals have made careers at the expense of the taxpayer; the weakness of the US and Western economies might be traced to the \$30 billion per annum spent on the Vietnam War, not to relatively minor domestic overspending; neoconservatives cannot credibly minimize the role of the national government in the domestic economy, if they are advocating massive military expenditure; like Thomas Jefferson before him, Reagan appears to have made his name as a domestic critic of governmental power, which he himself is now wielding in foreign affairs with great effect.

Liberal critics have made much of some of these points, yet their attacks have hitherto lacked focus and impact. No doubt the economically demoralizing climate has something to do with this.

But, just as future historians are likely to be incompletely satisfied by the neoconservative version of affairs, or by the use of Carter as a scapegoat, they will not wish to overstate the significance of intellectual anomie. Some Russian specialists will no doubt wish to suggest that Kremlin policy has varied, and that American policy has sensibly, and not pusillanimously, changed accordingly. Others will wish to probe more deeply into American society.

Another hypothesis may help to explain the rise of neoconservatism since 1945, and its recent electoral and policy triumphs. The hypothesis is based on the idea that there is not only to terms of geographic migration, but also in terms of entry to and exit from status groups.

The hypothesis is predicated upon the supposition that social groups, like individuals, may go through a period of radicalism, succeeded by a status "breakthrough" conferring wealth and political power, and that such a breakthrough may be accomplished by means of, or with the side-effect of, a short-term outbreak of conservatism. The hypothesis is that, by the 1970s, a number of groups had reached breakthrough point, with the result that the climate was right - given the stimuli of Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Polish crisis, and so on - for an upswing in conservatism. Here is one illustration.

John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) gives one the impression that the "Okies" who migrated to California in the 1930s (attracting new industry since they

and below T.V. Sathyamurthy considers the fate of the non-aligned countries in the 1980s

are relatively free from the high taxation of older industrial areas with more social and readjustment problems). Much of their wealth has been created by the arms industry, so they welcome the neoconservative skew in public expenditure.

Why has neoconservatism become such a force in US domestic and foreign affairs? As we have already noted, the neoconservative explanation is that there always was a case for hard-line foreign policy. The recent Reaganite success is not to be explained in terms of changes were ripe for radicalization. Certainly, Oklahoma itself had a socialist tradition even before the advent of the dustbowl problem with the consequent amiseration of the farming population.

Once arrived in California, however, the Okies began to make good. By the 1960s, they and their offspring were the backbone of the State's regular industrial workforce, and, according to intelligent political observers, of Reaganite conservatism.

Turning to the ethnic dimension of American politics, it is by now a truism that formerly lower-order immigrants noted for their erstwhile support for nationalist and liberal/left causes flocked to the banner of McCarthyism in the 1940s and 1950s. Previously the scapegoats for some of America's social ills, they could by 1945 join in the chorus of defamation against "Un-Americans", or alleged communists, reinforcing a social status they had painfully gained over the years.

Jews in America, like Jews in Israel, have become increasingly successful since 1945, and increasingly conservative at the same time. Blacks in Alabama, having at last won the franchise, voted for their old enemy George Wallace in the last gubernatorial election. Sons of the formerly insurgent Irish have made gestures to the right, or joined it.

President John F. Kennedy responded to the liberals' bogeymen Allen Dulles and J. Edgar Hoover head of the CIA and FBI respectively. Daniel P. Moynihan, according to Steinfels, achieved political "breakthrough" by enunciating conservative foreign-policy views. Reagan himself is of Irish descent, the son of a recipient of New Deal welfare assistance. Several ethnic groups have, since 1945, reached a point of social and political breakthrough, and turned conservative.

We have noted already the conservative trend in the academic community. American academics had long battled against what they perceived to be a distinctive anti-intellectualism in their country. In the heady 1960s, public expenditure on higher education boomed, students and their teachers supplied some of the radical thrust formerly associated with trade unions; the voting age was lowered to eighteen by Constitutional Amendment. The academic conservatism of the period since then may be regarded as part of a process of status consolidation.

Finally, it may not be entirely premature to suggest that women have made a considerable social and political breakthrough, for they can vote, share the spoils in broken marriages, enter many desirable professions, and so on. It remains to be seen whether the American women's movement will entirely abandon its former associations with peace movements and other radical causes. But US Senator Margaret Chase Smith and Jeane Kirkpatrick, two of the few women to have had a leadership-level impact on foreign affairs, have both been hawkish conservatives.

It would be dangerous to generalize categorically about the conservative influence of the foregoing social groups. For example, women favour lower prices and this would make them "liberal internationalists" in at least this respect. But there does seem to be a case for suggesting that several, collectively powerful social groups have supplied conservative and neoconservative ideological climate since 1945, with the whole process coming to a head in the post-Vietnam 1970s.

It is, therefore, possible to regard neoconservatism as, among other things, a domestic social phenomenon. This would help us to explain why conservative principles - if indeed they have remained constant since the cold war - fluctuated in popularity, and eventually carried the day.

If the conservatizing socio-political revolutions are now over in the United States, does this mean that neoconservatism is doomed in the long run; shall we see a renaissance of liberalism and a revival of détente? It is a prospect that some might cherish. But a few cautions need to be borne in mind.

Firstly, new conservatizing insurgencies may be just around the corner: we may see a Mexican-American political crusade, or a temporary proletarianization of Texas industry.

Secondly, liberal foreign-policy crusaders are notoriously dangerous: Wilson, FDR, Truman and Kennedy all took America to war. Indeed, the historian Elkins has already warned that modern liberals endorse the big government-in-defence argument to legitimize the appeal of their big government-in-welfare campaign; the dangers of a switch in emphasis are plain.

The author is lecturer in the Department of History, University of Edinburgh. His *The Growth of Federal Power* (co-edited with Bruce Collins) is published this month by Scottish Academic Press.

Fig leaf policy of the poor countries

New Delhi, the city of new fly-overs, five star hotels (newly believed to have been constructed with sub-standard materials), and stadia (unabashedly boasting separate entrances not only for VIPs but also for a specially invented category of VVIPs), recently given a £1 billion face-lift for the ninth Asian Games (Asiad, 1982) was the venue of the seventh conference of non-aligned nations to which over 60 heads of state and some 40 foreign ministers led their delegations.

At the Managua meeting of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries in preparation for the New Delhi "summit", several questions reflected the tension between the non-aligned powers. During the weeks between the Managua "pre-summit" and the New Delhi "summit" heads and foreign ministers of different non-aligned states visited India mainly to lobby for their own particular preferences in *à la carte* with the Indian prime minister.

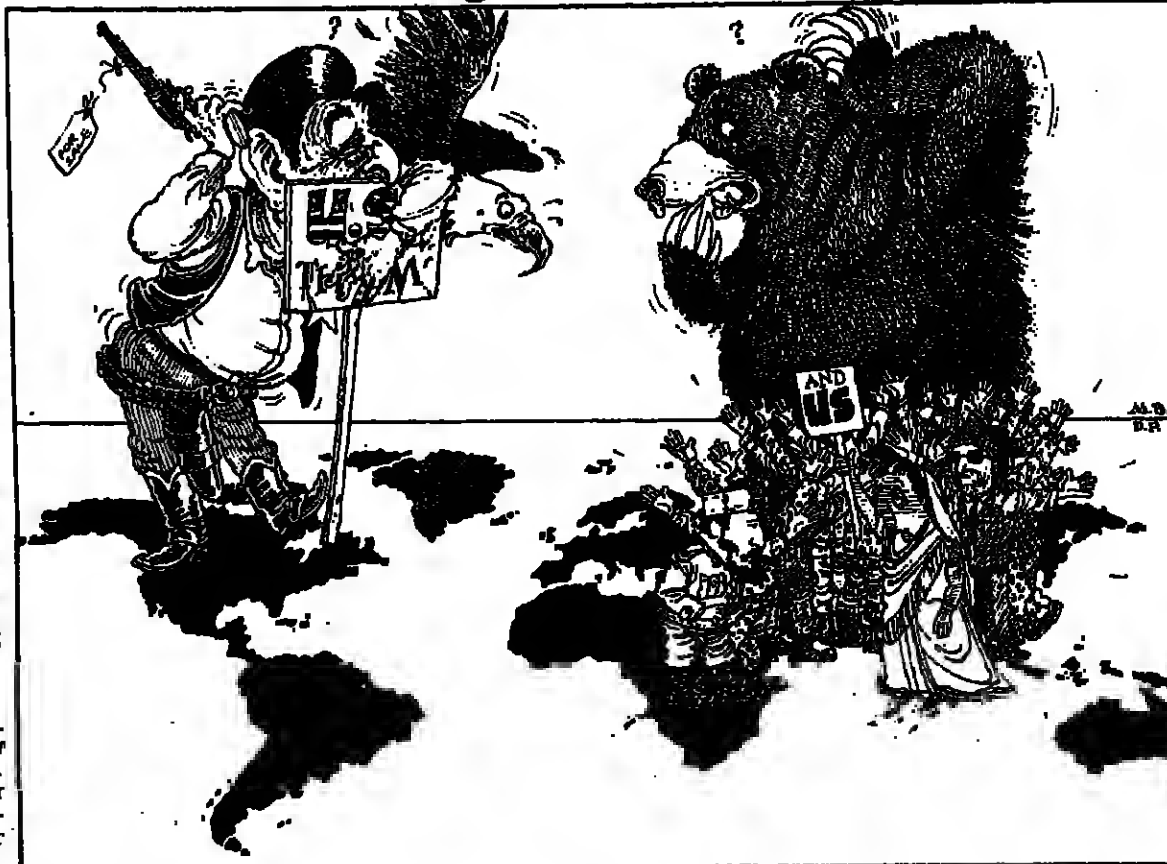
After a lapse of nearly two decades, the conference returned to one of its founding countries. During the intervening period, the non-aligned movement witnessed a number of changes which led to a drastic alteration of its character and a general diminution of its relevance in international relations.

Originally, "active" or "dynamic" non-alignment meant reducing international (and in particular cold war) tensions by adopting a posture of political independence from the big powers.

But, almost within a few years of the Bandung Conference, at which the general orientation of non-alignment took shape in the form of Panch Sheela, leaders of non-aligned countries began to differ among themselves.

By the time of the first non-aligned "summit" (Belgrade 1960), a thaw had begun to set in in the embattled relationship between the East and the West, marking the onset of an interlude of direct bilateral negotiations between the superpowers. Nearly a quarter of a century since Belgrade, on the eve of the seventh conference of non-aligned powers, the divisions of the world assumed a more rather than less acute form on a whole range of subjects embracing political, economic, military and ideological questions. And these divisions were reflected within the non-aligned movement which had vastly expanded over the years, in the form of sharp cleavages of interest and interpretation.

The differences that arose during the early 1960s among the original stalwarts of non-alignment were essentially containable. Thus, for India, for example, non-alignment represented a new approach to interna-



tional relations and foreign policy clearly linked to attempts made by its leadership to mould it as a dominant ideology capable of reflecting the collective aspirations of Third World countries in general in the sphere of the political economy of development.

Accordingly, India, along with Egypt (followed by Tanzania and others), adopted a relatively low key approach to foreign relations. While forging closer economic and political links with the Soviet Union on a bilateral basis, this group of non-aligned countries refrained from assuming an irreversibly strident anti-imperialist orientation.

By contrast, countries such as Indonesia under Sukarno, and Ghana under Nkrumah, followed by a far more radical political background involving various anti-imperialist struggles pursued foreign policies which were emphatically anti-imperialist without necessarily always being actively pro-Soviet. Until Tito's death, Yugoslavia remained the odd country out, even though its anti-Soviet stance was strictly confined to intra-bloc politics.

During the 1970s, the polyglot character of the non-aligned movement increased with its sudden expansion. A number of countries which would otherwise have been typecast as camp followers of one or the other superpower, took shelter under the label of non-alignment, their aim being to draw closer to the superpowers and to distance themselves from the Soviet Union.

On the one hand, China was able to draw close to America within a few years of branding the Soviet Union as "social imperialist" (1968) and therefore the more dangerous of the two superpowers.

On the other, Chinese foreign policy towards anti-imperialist national liberation movements became increasingly differentiated during the most intense phase (1968-80) of the elaboration of the Sino-Soviet conflict into active enmity between the two sides. Thus, in eastern and southern Africa, this new inclination which, until their entry, had been kept outside the pale.

The divisions within the non-aligned movement cannot be fully grasped without an understanding of how the simple global polarities of the 1950s (and especially the cold war) have, over the last three decades, become ramified into much more complex divisions.

The rise of the Soviet Union as a superpower not merely in name but also in fact has been accompanied by its growing political, economic and military involvement throughout the world. Within both the Western and Eastern blocs, junior partners have tended increasingly to assert singly or in combination, their independence of their hegemonic superpower leaders by in-

creasingly nationalism, or by attempts to offer an alternative to the cold war, or both.

The 1960s and 1970s witnessed the emergence, in a powerful manner, of two further major world contradictions in addition to the one between the superpowers and their allies - the contradiction between the forces of national liberation on the one hand and the forces of imperialism on the other; and the contradiction within the socialist world, dramatically highlighted by the Sino-Soviet split. Of these, the former originally matured around the armed conflict between Indo-China's national liberation struggles against US imperialism and its local allies.

The national liberation wars of Indo-China acted as a catalyst in the intensification of similar struggles elsewhere in the world, where US imperialism gave cover or active assistance to oppressive undemocratic regimes - as in Mozambique; Angola; Portuguese Guinea in Africa; Cuba, and Caribbean and Central American countries such as Grenada, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala in Latin America; as well as other parts of Asia.

The developing contradiction between the Chinese orientated and Soviet inclined sides of the world communist movement exercised a powerful effect not only on the course assumed by the major contradiction between the superpowers and their allies, but also on the conflicts involving imperialism and national liberation. On the one hand, China was able to draw close to America within a few years of branding the Soviet Union as "social imperialist" (1968) and therefore the more dangerous of the two superpowers.

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creasingly nationalism, or by attempts to offer an alternative to the cold war, or both.

The 1960s and 1970s witnessed the emergence, in a powerful manner, of two further major world contradictions in addition to the one between the superpowers and their allies - the contradiction between the forces of national liberation on the one hand and the forces of imperialism on the other; and the contradiction within the socialist world, dramatically highlighted by the Sino-Soviet split. Of these, the former originally matured around the armed conflict between Indo-China's national liberation struggles against US imperialism and its local allies.

These developments had the result of weakening the influence of older members of the movement led by India. Furthermore, changes of emphasis in India's economic policy, heralded by the Janata government and continued under Mrs Gandhi's government since its return to power, would point to a greater degree of dependence on the part of India on the West (eg, the 1981 IMF loan with its stringent conditions, as well as India's anxiety to draw closer to America), even though it has not been able to distance itself from the Soviet Union. Two decades ago, India could more or less effectively balance its relations with America and the Soviet Union; since the mid-1970s, however, non-alignment has increasingly tended to serve the purpose of a fig leaf to conceal India's deepening dependence on both the superpowers in order to maintain its prominence as a regional power. In this, of course, the differing aims of all three parties have a common meaning.

With the intensification of the cold war as reflected in the ongoing arms debate, the continuing Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, the difficulties created by the conflict between the Cambodian government and the Kampuchean liberation forces (which has particularly exercised Association of South East Nations countries to voice criticism against India on the eve of the New Delhi "summit"), and the widening of the conflict between democratic and pro-imperialist forces in Central America, the non-aligned bloc consisting of nearly 100 states has entered an era in which its politics are going to become increasingly subject to the vagaries of the cold war and the Sino-Soviet conflict.

With the passing of the chair of the movement from Havana to New Delhi, the non-aligned powers may indeed have begun a new phase of development in which internal divisions among them will become exaggerated, while the concept of non-alignment itself as an independent moral force at the disposal of the poor countries of the world is likely to recede into the limbo of international politics.

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Martin Bulmer asks what government research has to offer academic social science

A suitable case for state aid

Much of the recent debate over the utility of academic social science – for example, in connection with the Rothchild review of the Social Science Research Council – focused on what academics could or could not offer government. Far less attention has been paid to what government social research and social statistics may be able to offer social science. Yet this is an important issue, for recent changes in the shape of social science in Britain have implied a view of the balance between “in-house” government social research and external research done in universities and institutes. Cutbacks in government statistics and research – published in the case of the Rayner review of the Governmental Statistical Service, but more severe and less noticed in the case of departmental social research units, some of which have disappeared – imply that more of the work they have done will in future be done by academic researchers. The reshaping of the SSRC is seen by some as a sign that it will be more responsive to the demands of policy makers. Yet no one has systematically examined the case for locating research in particular settings and assessing the relative merits of funding through, say, the Department of Health and Social Security as opposed to the SSRC. Rothchild was expected to make some observations on “in-house” versus research council support, but concentrated exclusively on a reasoned and critical defence of the SSRC. The growing literature on the applications of social science is almost all from the outside looking in rather than from the inside looking out.

To the researcher inside government, social research appears to be a professional activity defined by a distinctive product, usable results. Social research in this sense is distinct from the academic disciplines which constitute the social sciences. Professional social researchers in government are oriented primarily to practical problems, and draw on the constituent disciplines of the social sciences only to the extent that they can provide leverage upon these problems. (The strength of economics as a subject within Whitehall owes a good deal to the leverage which Keynesian theory seemed to provide upon real-world problems.) The social sciences as disciplines, on the other hand, are corporations of scholars pursuing knowledge within an intellectual framework provided by leading figures in a discipline, past and present. Universities are corporations of disciplines, collectively committed to the pursuit of learning through the advancement of discipline-based knowledge. This is a different calling from that of some one working within an organization committed to research as a professional activity which produces results that are ultimately of practical utility. This difference between social research and social science runs right through the history of British social inquiry, and partly accounts for the very wide gulf that separates academic from non-academic social science research in this country.

The explanation also lies inside the universities. Different professions have been differentially incorporated into universities. Law and medicine, classically, have been most closely integrated, academic departments providing the theoretical underpinning and basic education for the practical activities of lawyers and doctors. Lawyers obtained their later practical training outside the university, trainee doctors within it in that specially created institution, the medical school, linked on the one side to academic departments of anatomy, physiology and biochemistry and on the other to the teaching hospital in which training and treatment of patients were combined. Other professions have had more or less close links with academic departments. Statistics, accountancy and social work, for example, are all academic subjects which usually form distinct departments or sub-departments and have strong links to professional practice and an important role in professional or pre-professional training. That relationship varies. In statistics, bodies like the Royal Statistical Society link academics and practitioners, often making the practitioners seem rather academic. In social work teaching, the academic orientation is much more practice-oriented, tending to emphasize the common bonds between teachers and practitioners and putting less weight on research in the subject.

Yet other professional activities – those of actuaries, tax inspectors and social researchers, for example – have lacked altogether or have only had a precarious foothold in the academic world. The gulf which exists between government social research and academic social science owes a lot to the former's interdisciplinary character and practical orientation both of which distance it from social science disciplines. Of course people trained in sociology, social psychology, anthropology and political science go to work as social researchers in government, but once there, their orientation and professional outlook become distanced from the disciplines in which they were originally trained. The links which may be sustained in subjects such as law, accountancy or statistics become attenuated in the gap between social research practice and social science as an academic discipline.

The distance between government social research and academic is, however, not a uniform one. It can vary considerably. It may therefore be useful to consider the forms which this relationship can take. At least five may be distinguished.

1: Academic annexation, where the academic discipline takes over a branch of applied social research. This has happened most clearly in psychology. The use of psychological testing in the armed forces and in government began in the United States during the First World War. Since then it has become an established branch of applied psychology,

whose products go to work in government as professional psychologists. Psychologists working in government are first and foremost psychologists, and retain firm links with academic psychology.

2: Autonomy, on the other hand, is characteristic of some parts of government which do not have strong professional links to the academic world. The Social Survey Division of OPCS is a case in point. Its staff are professional survey researchers. The Government Social Survey developed in large measure independently of any academic discipline, though there has been some peripheral contact with individual academics. Essentially, it is an autonomous organization. Such movement of staff from commercial market research, itself largely insulated from academic social science, is a mode where “in-house” government researchers draw on a body of academic research and design their own research programme to complement it, with more emphasis upon tactical, practical and action-oriented projects. The relationship between the Home Office Research and Planning Unit and the Cambridge Institute of Criminology has been of this kind, a particularly close and symbiotic one because the Home Office originally financed the institute. Work in the Department of Employment on industrial relations has stood in a similar relation to industrial sociology and industrial psychology.

3: Application is a mode where “in-house” government researchers draw on a body of academic research and design their own research programme to complement it, with more emphasis upon tactical, practical and action-oriented projects. The relationship between the Home Office Research and Planning Unit and the Cambridge Institute of Criminology has been of this kind, a particularly close and symbiotic one because the Home Office originally financed the institute. Work in the Department of Employment on industrial relations has stood in a similar relation to industrial sociology and industrial psychology.

4: Alienation and annihilation has been characteristic less of a particular area than a general problem in the law and order, race, education, health, for example. New graduates in social science have often experienced considerable difficulty in adapting to the



Gathering statistics for the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. Just one area of government social research

very different time scales and intellectual orientations of government research. In some areas this has been linked to intellectual differences, for example between mainstream criminology and the “new” criminology and sociology of deviance. (See R. V. G. Clarke's article “The effectiveness of graduate education in sociology,” *Sociology* Vol. 15, November 1981.)

5: Academic incorporation is the opposite of academic annexation. Instead of academic social scientists taking over an area of research, government researchers may take on some of the attributes of academics. This process is clearest in the case of statisticians, and was personified when Claus Moser moved in the mid-1960s from a chair at the London School of Economics to become head of the Government Statistical Service. Professional discussion at the Royal Statistical Society commission involves academic and government statisticians equally (as well as other practitioners), a balance reflected in the officers of the society.

The contribution which government social research may make to social science is conditioned by the setting in which it takes place. It is my impression that autonomy, application or alienation and annihilation are more common than academic annexation or incorporation, where the fit is tightest. Statistics and applied psychology are somewhat exceptional in the close links which have developed across the divide. Application involves some collaboration, though a dear division of labour between basic and applied research. Autonomy or alienation and annihilation are very characteristic, where the meshing between government work and universities is slightest.

Some of the reasons for this state of affairs lies in the predispositions of social scientists towards government work. Others derive from the lack of understanding among some social scientists about what research in government is really like. Some radical social scientists are deeply suspicious of the state and all its works. On the other side there is a degree of isolation of government researchers from academic work, the relevance of which to their practical concerns is not always apparent. A necessary condition for greater contributions from government social research to social science is better communication. The creation of the Social Research Association has been an important first step, since its membership spans the divide. What is also needed is more bridge-building, more coordination (in which the SSRC should play a greater role) and more fighting of battles in common. Cuts in University Grants Committee-funded social science and government research and statistics are rarely linked, and one would be frequently aware from the press that the two sides had interests in common. One of the obstacles to better communication, it has to be said, is a certain degree of condescension by sections of the academic social science community towards social researchers working in practical contexts.

Changes in the job market for their students, if nothing else, are likely to change this.

Attitudes may also change if some of the specific actual and potential contributions of government social research are appreciated. These are several. Potentially, government social researchers could do much to illuminate the policy-making process. They are much closer to policy makers and more familiar with what they are doing. A good deal of academic work on policy is not based on first-hand data. Government researchers can throw light on how policy is formulated and how knowledge feeds into government.

Access to data is often also superior, in two senses. There is access to bodies of administrative records which can be used for certain research purposes and which are closed to outsiders. And there is a greater probability “in-house” of getting permission to do first-hand research in relatively inaccessible contexts (for example, prisons). Government social researchers should do as much as possible to exploit these opportunities, and there are signs that they are doing so (“Fight to see Home Office files” *THES* April 8). Academic social scientists appreciate insufficiently the virtues of the large-scale data sets planned, maintained and managed by government social researchers. These include the General

Household Survey, the Family Expenditure Survey, the Labour Force Survey and the New Earnings Survey. Economists have perhaps been more energetic in exploiting such sources, and there have been notable studies of poverty using GHS and FES data. But very much more could be done. Government social researchers have a key role to play in communicating their potential to academics. (For one example, see C. Hakim, *Secondary Analysis in Social Research*, 1982.) Government conducts research on a relatively large scale, particularly in the OPCS Social Survey Division. This is a large and complex research organization which has no parallel in the academic world, and a form about which many academic social scientists are distinctly ambivalent. It is an important centre for the development of expertise research, but this is hindered by its relative lack of communication with academics. There are now other rivals, such as the SCPR-City University Survey Methods Centre.

The potential training function of government social researchers is considerable. This has two sides. The relatively underdeveloped state of research methodology, particularly in subjects like sociology and political science, requires attention. More training in social research needs to be provided at graduate level, though there are already some pioneering courses. But even when this is done, there is nothing like the medical school in which practical experience can be gained. Potentially a great deal could be achieved by training placements for graduate students in government research divisions, as well as by secondments of existing staff in both directions between government research units and social science departments.

Government (and local government) social research also can offer career employment in research, whereas research staff in universities suffer chronic job insecurity, moving from one short-term contract to another. The advantages of a career in government research are increasingly apparent as the academic job market shrinks. The greater number of openings in applied social research may in the medium term open the eyes of social scientists to some of the benefits to be gained from greater interchange.

One avenue for improved communication is undoubtedly common participation in meetings of learned societies and study groups. The more government researchers and academics can meet in these settings, the better for both. Even more critical is publication of research results. Here the constraints on those working in government are considerable, but efforts must be made to improve their situation. The right to publish is an essential one for free inquiry and one which must be fought for at all times. Where there are constraints, the right to partial publication or some publication must be insisted upon, and the social science community must play its part in pressing for this (cf David Donnison's address to the Social Research Association in December, *THES* January 7, 1983). More ingenuity should be used in seeking a degree of anonymity or selectivity in negotiating publication. Heclo and Wildavsky's *The Private Government of Public Money*, which gives a brilliant view of Treasury control at work, shows what access-with-strings can achieve. Such arrangements are not necessarily debasing. Government research divisions and units should try to publicize their own publications more effectively, by sending out review copies to journals as well as to the press. Social researchers in government should try to contribute more articles to academic journals, particularly in applied fields such as social policy, public policy, health, industrial relations, criminology or education. Thus can national and international scholarly communication be fostered.

Some of these things are being done already to some extent, but they are not very common. The gulf between government social research and academic social science remains a relatively wide one. It is one that none of us can afford to leave unbridged.

The author is lecturer in social administration at the London School of Economics and a former member of the Government Statistical Service. This article is based on a lecture given to the Conference of Social Science Research Officers at the Civil Service College in January 1983.

BOOKS

Books about books about books

by David Lodge

On Deconstruction: theory and criticism after structuralism by Jonathan Culler
Routledge & Kegan Paul, £16.95 and \$6.95
ISBN 0 7100 9502 3 and 9523 6
Deconstruction: theory and practice by Christopher Norris
Methuen, £2.95
ISBN 0 416 32070 8

And all these people about her, what aim had they save to make new books out of those already existing, that yet newer books might in turn be made out of theirs?

Thus Marion Yale, in Gissing's *New Grub Street*, seated at her desk in the British Museum Reading Room – this huge library, growing into an unmanageable, threatening to become a trackless desert of print – how intolerably it weighed upon the spirit!

It's a moment of *la nausée* that most scholars and graduate students will admit to having felt at some low ebb of their lives, while to the layman the passage no doubt epitomizes the self-evident futility of literary research.

Both the books under review are books about books about books, but unapologetically so. For one of the axioms of the deconstructionist discourse is that they symbolically address themselves to that so far from being a perverse or decadent or parasitic activity, the production of such books is entirely logical and indeed inescapable. All books are books about books about books, whether or not they explicitly acknowledge their citations, misprisions and reworkings of precursor texts, and in this respect literary and critical discourse (the distinction between the two as primary and secondary being regarded as nugatory) merely makes manifest the condition of all discourse – which is that everything we say depends upon something, upon many things, having been said before. Paradoxically, *langue*, the system of rules and possibilities which governs the production of *parole*, the body or “text” of human speech acts that extends to the horizons of our possible knowledge. In Derrida's aphorism, “Il n'y a pas de hors-texte.” There is nothing outside the text. Every utterance is part of a series whose origin is undiscoverable and whose continuation is unstoppable. Hence books about books about books.

These two, however, belong to a special and well-recognized sub-class of “about books”, namely the critical survey which aims to describe, synthesize, and evaluate an existing body of work, rather than to carry it forward by some radically new step; and as such they are placed in a very interesting and delicate relationship to their subject matter, because the project implies the possibility of a metalanguage which the subject matter denies.

It should be impossible to give a “fair”, “objective”, “disinterested” account of deconstruction, since deconstruction denies the possibility of any ground of neutrality from which it could be judged. It would seem to follow that you must be either for or against deconstruction – that you can only expound it from inside, as it were, or believe it, and that to be outside is to either ignore it or oppose it. I express myself conditionally because it seems to me that although most discussion of deconstruction has been polarized in precisely that way, both Professor Culler and Dr Norris have in fact succeeded in doing the nearly impossible, or in nearly doing the impossible, namely, to give an account of deconstruction that is reasonable, lucid and fair. Of course I must admit to being biased in favour of reason, lucidity and fair-play. More

engaged readers might complain that Professor Culler and Dr Norris have made deconstruction seem either less liberating or less mischievous than it really is.

Interestingly enough, Norris begins by making this kind of point against Culler's *Structuralist Poetics* (1975), to which *On Deconstruction* is an acknowledged sequel. The success of the earlier book, its widespread acceptance in British and American academic circles as the definitive guide to European literary structuralism of the 1960s and early 1970s, was, Norris suggests, due to the fact that it offered, via a theory of literary “competence” analogous to Chomsky's linguistic competence, a rapprochement between Anglo-American intuitive-empirical critical practice and structuralism's “scientific” investigation of the systematic aspects of literary discourse. It's certainly true that in the last chapter of *Structuralist Poetics*, Culler expressed considerable reservations about the more subversive and “uncanny” speculations concerning the relations between language, text and world that were beginning to emerge out of the structuralist project, especially under the inspiration of Jacques Derrida. A large part of *On Deconstruction* is devoted to a scrupulous, respectful and largely sympathetic exposition of Derrida's writings, so we must infer that Culler has undergone something of a conversion in deconstruction, since he explicitly says so. He certainly does not write with the elation and urgency of someone who has suddenly seen the light or joined the elect, but rather as one who has been slowly convinced by patient inquiry, and his exposition is persuasive precisely because it leads the reader through the same step-by-step process.

He approaches his subject first by considering feminist criticism – an unexpected but very illuminating procedure. In reversing the hierarchical opposition *man/woman* (in which the superiority of the first term has been assumed for so long that it has come to seem “natural”) male reader, thus revealing all kinds of previously suppressed meanings in a given text, feminist criticism performs one stage of a classic deconstructionist move – but only one stage. It is not enough to reverse received hierarchical oppositions, which only produces another kind of his or her faith – one must call into question the absoluteness or necessity of the opposition itself. The more thoughtfully feminist criticism investigates what is entailed in the more “reading as a woman” the more problematic the concepts of “man and reading” become. “For a woman to read as a woman is not to repeat an identity or an experience that she constructs with reference to her identity as a woman, which is also a construct...”

The same lesson emerges from an examination of Stanley Fish's reader-response theory, as expounded with such engaging brio in his *Is There A Text In This Class?* Rejecting the formalist attempt to ground criticism in the text, because the meaning of a text is always determined by context, Fish tries to ground it in the reader's experience, but this again always turns out, on close examination, to be constructed, not given. “What he constructs,” Culler observes acutely, “is not Stanley Fish reading, but Stanley Fish imagining reading as a Fish reader.” There is always, says Culler, “a gap or division within reading. Our most familiar versions of this division are the notion of ‘suspension of disbelief’, or our simultaneous interest in characters as people and characters as devices of the novelist's art, or our appreciation of the suspense of a story whose ending, in fact, we already know.” Such simple but telling examples throw much light on the abstract paradoxes and portentous imagery of deconstructionist discourse and constitute one reason why *On Decon-*

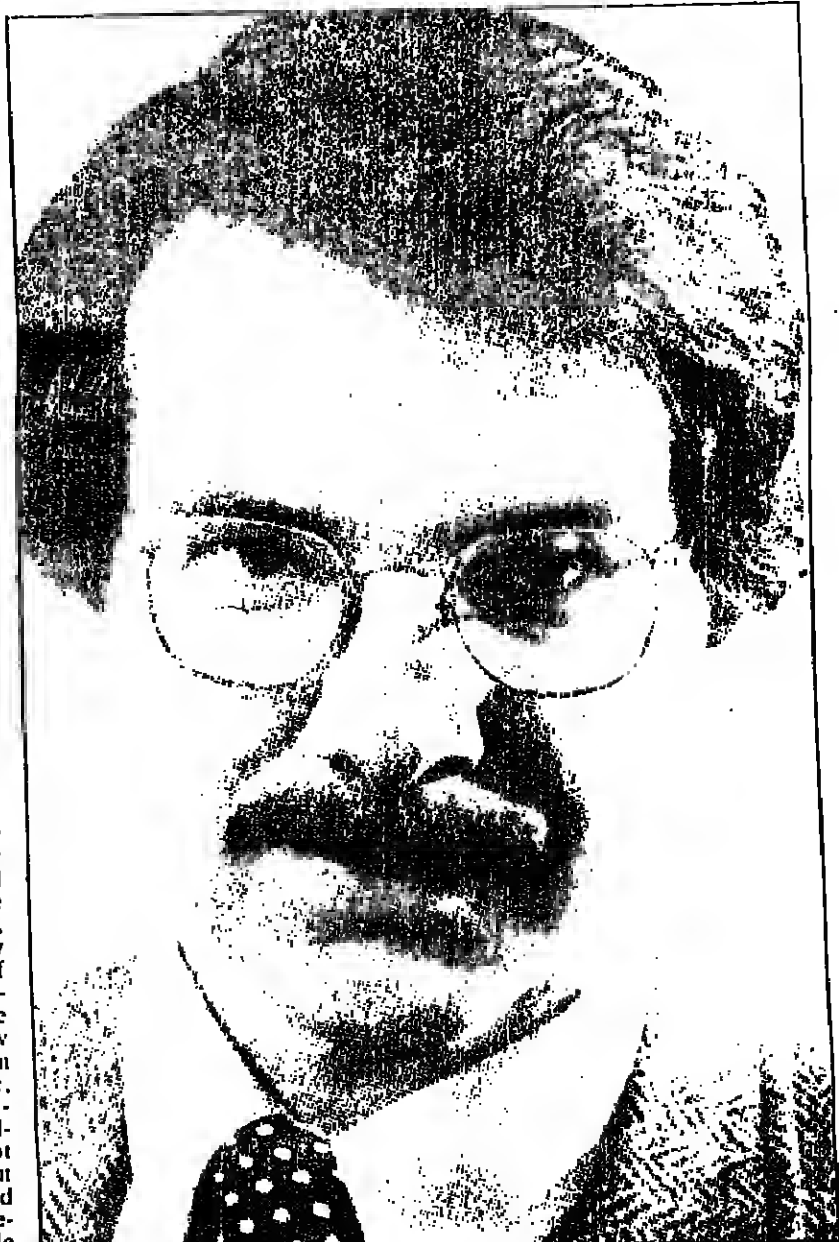
struction will prove as indispensable a guide to poststructuralism as its predecessor was to structuralism.

Admittedly it is an account of poststructuralism that some will see as unduly centred on Derrida. Culler deals very thoroughly with the key concepts of Derrida's thought and the crucial debates in which he has been involved: the concept of *différance* – the endless, inevitable postponement of meaning from one signifier to another; the attack on “logocentrism” or assumed metaphysical “presence” in western philosophical discourse, and the alleged privileging of speech over writing in the same tradition; the critique of Saussure for still clinging to the idea of a transcendental signified beyond the play of signs; the debate with John Searle over Austin's speech act philosophy, which Derrida claimed repeats the mistakes Austin criticized in others; Freud's discovery, deconstructionist *avant la lettre*, of original origins in psychoanalysis. In the third and final section of his book, Culler considers some of the consequences of deconstructionist arguments for literary criticism.

For, as Culler makes clear in his introduction, deconstruction is not in itself a poetic or a method of literary criticism. It belongs to a new kind of intellectual discourse, loosely and rather unsatisfactorily called “theory”, formed by the convergence of various disciplines – philosophy, linguistics, psychoanalysis, literary criticism, upon certain key issues of language, epistemology and representation, that are in some sense perennial, but were posed in a new and challenging form by modern thinkers like Freud, Marx, Nietzsche, Saussure, and the structuralist movement in the human sciences generally. “Theory” in this sense is not synonymous with literary theory, but very obviously impinges upon it and upon critical practice. Indeed, “deconstruction” is the most fashionable form of academic critical discourse in America at present, as a glance at current periodicals, conference programmes and university press catalogues will confirm.

The success of deconstruction at this level is regarded with mixed feelings by both Culler and Norris. Culler, in particular, seems concerned to rescue Derrida from his American admirers. He frequently denies that Derrida's principles licence the interpretive freewheeling of the kind advocated by, for instance, Geoffrey Hartman and J. Hillis Miller, which has caused much outrage to traditional critics. Here one can't help feeling that Culler is underplaying the ludic, Nietzschean, joy-in-destruction side of Derrida. He cites Derrida's statement in his seminal essay of 1966, “Structure, Sign and Play”, that “there can today be no question of choosing” between interpretation which seeks a truth or origin and interpretation which affirms play; but I read Derrida's “today” as a very specific reference to the historical moment at which structuralism was about to change into poststructuralism – a phenomenon that he figured apocalyptically in the same essay “in the formless, mute, infant and terrifying form of monstrosity.” Now we know that it was slouching towards New Haven to be born, but surely there is no doubt that Derrida has worked hard to ensure that it was warmly welcomed there, often by his own personal presence.

Norris, while sharing Culler's reservations about deconstructive criticism “on the wild side”, is readier to admit Derrida's own simplicity in it. His book, though much shorter than Culler's, and belonging to a series (New Accents) associated, for good or ill, with a certain degree of popularization, is actually wider in its range of reference, locating Derrida's work more explicitly in modern philosophical debate, and placing Derrida's deconstruction in the context of other competing poststructuralist discourses associated with such names as Althusser, Foucault and Said. His



Jonathan Culler

brisk, confident march through all this formidably difficult material sometimes threatens to turn into a swagger, but there is no doubt that this is an impressive and useful book. Where the two books overlap, there is not much disagreement. Both authors, for instance, conclude that the only possible answer to deconstructive scepticism about the possibility of arriving at a stable meaning in interpretation is Wittgenstein's language-game model of discourse; but to both it is not a real refutation – merely a respectable reason for suppressing questions which they would prefer to keep in play. For both, it would seem, deconstruction is optional, not mandatory. “Deconstruction has no better theory of truth,” says Culler. “It is a practice of reading and writing attuned to the aporias [gaps, uncertainties, contradictions] that arise in attempts to tell the truth.” “Deconstruction neither denies nor really affects the commonsense view that language exists to communicate meaning,” says Norris. “It suspends that view for its own specific purpose of seeing what happens when the writs of convention no longer run.” If the traditional literary critic asks why, in that case, he should bother with it, his students' heads, with it, one answer might be that it explains why to the writing of many books about books about books there is no end. Deconstruction makes the endlessness of interpretation no longer the scandal or guilty secret of criticism, but its raison d'être.

Culler and Norris show why deconstruction is not embarrassed by the argument most frequently levelled against it by “humanist” critics, namely, that deconstructionists, in expressing their ideas, rely in practice on the communicative efficacy of language which in theory they deny. A different, but related argument is that deconstruction is an essentially

negative, adversary discourse, which can only exist as long as there is an orthodoxy (or common sense, reason, empiricism, etc) which resists it. Both Culler and Norris implicitly accept this view in as much as they emphasize that deconstruction should not be regarded as a method of analysis which can be learned and applied like Practical Criticism or structuralist narratology, but a strenuous engagement with and questioning of the fundamental assumptions underlying western thought from Plato to Levi-Strauss. This is, of course, no reason for setting it aside, but it does raise some important questions about educational practice which neither author pursues. At what stage of education is it appropriate to introduce deconstructive habits of thought, and in what kind of curriculum?

Presumably one cannot deconstruct meaning until one has learned to construct it; certainly all the major deconstructionists are men and women who have passed through the pathways of a traditional liberal humanist education. Their work derives much of its force and energy from their inworldness and familiarity with the values and assumptions they call into question. It is only superficially inconsistent of Derrida to lead a campaign for the retention of philosophy in the curriculum of French secondary schools – that philosophy which his own writings have aimed to expose as founded on the void, and it is probably not accidental that his work is written in a style so complex, playful and devious that only a tiny minority of readers can hope to understand it. General acceptance would be the death of deconstruction.

David Lodge is professor of English at the University of Birmingham.

BOOKS

Makers of history

The History Men: the historical profession in England since the Renaissance
by John Kenyon
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £16.50
ISBN 0 297 78081 6

It is, I hope, not mere narcissism that prompts historians to survey their own species. I do not know whether dentists habitually dwell upon the lives of great dentists of the past, but one suspects not. It is natural that historians should be interested in the history of their own discipline, and the practice of history is so personal that the historian is akin to an artist: one must know something about his character and life, assumptions and prejudices, before one can fully evaluate his work. With historians as colourful as Carlyle, Macaulay, Froude and Namier, the connexion between the man and his writings is obvious enough, but it applies to all practitioners, even those most apt to claim objectivity and to see themselves as exempt from the prejudices that afflict the rest of us.

John Kenyon's book had its origin in four articles written for the *Observer* magazine in 1976. The rather trendy title must, I suppose, be forgiven: the heart of the matter is in the subtitle.

Kenyon gives us a masterly survey, beautifully balanced, sparkling with wit, and a delight to read. Whether historians will much enjoy the reflection they will see in the mirror is another matter: looked at collectively, we are really rather a rum lot, full of strange obsessions and fears. The buzzing of bees in bonnets is, at times, quite deafening: S. R. Gardiner, under the impression that he was a non-partisan while clearly a passionate Whig; Lord Acton, a real-life Casanova, always on the brink of doing great things (Oman's description of Acton's library, choked with the intellectual debris of the amateur scholar is a terrible warning); Carlyle, whose digestion and "poor" were linked in the most explicit way, each agitated by violent rumblings; Namier wondering whether his crippled hand was the result of a suppressed desire to kill Hitler; Trevelyan, pining for a past that had not only vanished, but perhaps never existed. It is often said that in our relentless march towards efficiency we give our students everything save the precious gift of eccentricity. It is certainly true that when one reflects upon lecturers long ago, one remembers little of the argument but recalls vividly those who fell off the rostrum, set fire to themselves, or lectured to the wrong class. But in his last chapter, surveying the contemporary scene, Kenyon hints that the breed is not entirely extinct.

We are reminded how comparatively recently - in the last hundred years or so - history established itself as a university subject. The present-day historian, urged to make himself familiar with statistics, languages, palaeography, computer techniques, sociology, childed for his ignorance of art, and economics and literature, overwhelmed with the guilt of books and articles never read, to say nothing of those never written, will be surprised that history had to defend itself against the charge of being a soft option. Its progress in later decades was very much at the expense of classics, once regarded as the finest possible general education, but undermined by the decay of language teaching in schools.

One theme that comes across clearly is the fear that haunts many historians, including some of the best, that their discipline does not quite add up. Froude got himself into hot water in 1864 with the candid remark that "it often seems to me as if history is like a child's box of letters with which we can spell out any word we please". And this, surely, was behind Butterfield's sensational attack upon Namier and all his wicked ways, which would leave us

"desolate and bewildered in a land entirely without shapes and contours, leave us with a feeling that, in fact, there is no larger course of history." Considerations of space oblige Kenyon to limit himself to British history, so that we have, for example, no comment on the work of E. H. Carr, which has provoked some lively recent exchanges. Nor does he have much to say about medieval historians, partly, one supposes, from sheer prudence, though there is some discussion of Stubbs's contribution to the Oxford School of History. This means that an important figure like Maitland, who had much to say about historical aims and methods, hardly makes an appearance. Of living historians, he is warily respectful towards Geoffrey Elton, and indeed Kenyon's prophecy that Elton must attain the Regius chair was fulfilled at such speed (indeed before the book was actually published) that it must surely encourage Kenyon to try his luck on the pools.

Though the pen-portraits are marvellously well done, it would be a strange historian who agreed with all of them. Kenyon is not impressed by Acton, whom he finds opinionated, superficial and extreme - "an entertaining book reviewer but a poor historian". He is kinder towards G. M. Trevelyan than has been the fashion, and generous towards Namier, mainly I think for his professional dedication - "his reputation seems to be rising still". But his comments on Butterfield are so sharp that they suggest we may have to wait until Kenyon himself is canonized before we find the explanation. That Butterfield should have reviewed Jack Brooke's book on the Chatham administration four

times, each balefully, shocks Kenyon, and he rightly calls it "a flagrant breach of academic and literary etiquette". He believes that Butterfield's "modest and rather random output" scarcely warranted a Regius chair, though others might applaud Butterfield's determination not to be narrow. "He was a man with a reputation rather like an inverted cone, his wide-ranging prestige balanced upon a tiny platform of achievement... an austere but mischievous guru". This is severe. One can hardly read Butterfield's attack upon Namier, intemperate though it was, without seeing the anguish for the study of history that lay behind it. There have always been a minority of historians, at times perhaps even a majority, impatient of historiography, anxious just to get on with their researches, doubtful whether the history of historians was of any value. Kenyon argues that knowledge of the character and circumstances of an historian constitutes an essential piece of evidence. In his preface, he writes of students that to most of them "a book by Tawney, Namier, Elton or Trevor-Roper is just a book, its author ageless and unreal (or no more real than Clarendon), and unaffected by pressures of class, religion, politics, education or professional animosity". Alas, it is not only students but many of their seniors who think that way. But, in this splendid book, Kenyon has deprived them of the last shreds of intellectual justification for so naive an attitude.

John Cannon

John Cannon is professor of history at the University of Newcastle.

Closing ranks

The Crisis of the Old Order in Russia: gentry and government
by Robert Thompson Manning
Princeton University Press, £41.30
ISBN 0 691 05349 9

Where the pre-revolutionary Russian gentry is concerned, we have all been propagandized, however innocently, by the plays of Chekhov. Sort of a grocer and grandson of a serf, Anton Chekhov characteristically portrayed the gentry as feeble, absentee landlords, compelled by financial exigencies to forsake the delights of Paris and St Petersburg to retire to their country seats in deepest Russia, selling off their remaining property piecemeal to ake out their declining years with a semblance of dignity. Contemplating oblivion from a thousand rustic verandahs, the doozed "superfluous men" whiled away the interminable summer days as they waited with a resignation born of class degeneration for the axe to fall.

The Chekhov-inspired perception of the Russian gentry about to be rights not survive. Robert Manning's remarkable new study, although surveying the entire period from the emancipation of the serfs in 1861 until the fall of tsarism in 1917, the heart of the book, comprising some two thirds of the text, concentrates on the dramatic impact on the gentry of the "First Russian Revolution". The startling conclusion is that "of all the social groups that entered the political fray in 1905-7, the provincial gentry emerged with the greatest political advantages".

Although initially sympathetic to the burgeoning opposition towards the tsarist government at the turn of the century, the gentry was stamped after autumn 1905 by a "great fear" of nationwide peasant takeovers towards a "right-wing" conservatism based upon "solid" self-interest. Rumours that a "black partition" - state appropriation of gentry land and its redistribution among the peasantry - was being seriously entertained by the Tsar to buy peace in the countryside further alarmed the beleaguered landowners. Finally, the radical agrarian plans advanced by the Duma, the recently-conceded Russian parliament convening for the first time in 1906, induced the gentry to close ranks in terror of forcible dispossession.

With the new United Nobility organization at its head, the gentry rallied and mobilized in self-defence as never before. A groundswell of gentry agitation in the provinces, determined lobbying in the capital and an expedient alliance with reactionary court circles were orchestrated into a counter-revolution which gathered momentum from mid 1906. The victory of reaction was secured when, in June 1907, the electoral laws which had permitted two recalcitrant (but broadly representative) Dumas were altered to connect an artificial right-wing gentry dominance in subsequent convocations of the Russian "parliament". This was emphatically not the restoration of the pre-1905 status quo; rather, through a combination of good luck and good management, the gentry had become for the first time the social, economic and political beneficiaries of a tsarist counter-revolutionary establishment which was to last in its essentials until 1917 itself.

Combining a meticulous reading of an awesome corpus of published primary sources with the fruits of extended periods in the Soviet archives, Robert Manning has authoritatively reinterpreted a neglected history which is currently experiencing something of a historiographical renaissance. Although some might still label the "First Russian Revolution" the events of 1905-7 undeniably made a prodigious impact as a compulsory lesson in political education. The book's generous (even admiring) treatment of Peter Stolypin, conventionally regarded as the last able tsarist premier, draws attention once again to the crying need for a full modern biography of this supremely controversial figure whose career was both made and made by the resurgence of the gentry class from which he sprang.

The most indelible impression, however, remains the unimpaired account of how, after decades of economic misfortune, social decline and political torpor, the Russian gentry still found the resources to strike back to emerge unexpectedly as the prime victors of the "First Russian Revolution". The gentry turned out to be more adaptable, better organized and conspicuously tougher than Chekhov - who died on the very brink of that comeback in 1904 - ever gave them credit for.

Raymond Pearson

Raymond Pearson is senior lecturer in history at the New University of Ulster.



This photograph, taken on board a whaler in 1889, is reproduced in *Calla Ford and Brian Harrison's A Hundred Years Ago: Britain in the 1880s in words and pictures*, which is published next week by Allen Lane (£25.00) and Penguin (£10.00).

Transfer of power

Escape from Empire: the Attlee Government and the Indian problem
by R. J. Moore
Oxford University Press, £19.50
ISBN 0 19 822688 8

Once Japanese armies had swept through southeast Asia in early 1942, the British in India were thrown into crisis, a condition which more or less persisted until their departure in August, 1947. With Gandhi threatening a massive campaign of civil disobedience, Cripps was despatched to India in an unsuccessful bid to forge a compromise with the nationalists. Congress agitation soon began and there followed three very rough years of intermittently severe disorder, repression and - for a time in Bengal - famine.

Postwar elections in India yielded both a nationwide majority for Congress and a clear mandate from the Muslim minority for Pakistan. This led to two years of excruciatingly complex negotiations involving the Attlee government, its Viceroy, the Indian princes, Congress and the Muslim League. Mountbatten, who was sent to Delhi in early 1947, later described India at the time as "a ship on fire in mid-ocean with ammunition in the hold". Violence on a vast scale was a real possibility and there were serious doubts about the reliability of Indian and even British troops. In five hair-raising months, he rushed through a solution, that left Britain looking far more dignified than many had thought possible.

R. J. Moore's book comes as close as anyone is likely to get to providing the definitive study of the public posturing and private negotiating that formed the core of this story. It completes the analysis which Moore developed in two previous volumes, *The Crisis of Indian Unity and Churchill, Cripps and India* and is a major achievement.

The book's greatest strengths and its main weakness arise from the same source: its density of detail. The reader who seeks an authoritative, measured judgment on any aspect of this story will find it here, anchored in abundant evidence which the author has extracted from unprecedentedly exhaustive reading.

For example, he confirms longstanding suspicions that Churchill unwaveringly opposed Cripps's 1942 negotiations with Congress by ensuring that he

had too little to offer. Lord Wavell, the last Viceroy but one, appears at times to have been more imaginative and progressive than several key Labour politicians, but lacking in guile when dealing with Indian leaders. Moore also reinforces the view that when the last civil disobedience campaign waned in 1944, Gandhi's time at the centre of politics was over. His efforts to maintain Indian unity, to prevent the survival of a strong state structure and to dismantle the Congress organization - India's central political institution after independence - all failed.

The author's most interesting discovery is the ambiguous role of Attlee (and, by extension, of much of Labour's leadership) in this story. From the late 1930s to the end of the war, Attlee tended to allow his personal sentiments to override his anti-imperialist convictions. Through most of that period, he was remarkably unsympathetic to Congress, standing at several crucial moments closer to Churchill than to the far-sightedly radical Cripps.

Like many British observers after him, Attlee was unable to grasp that an open, representative political system in India in which one party predominated might work more or less adequately. Nor did he see it for the inevitability that it was. By helping to postpone an offer of self-government until after the last psychological moment had passed in the winter of 1944-45, Attlee contributed to a very costly delay in the securing of the last hope (which his own government later shared) of leaving India united. Thereafter his role was more creative, but as Moore ably demonstrates, he owed an immense debt to Cripps, to the adroit Mountbatten and to the good sense of Nehru, Patel and his aides.

It is, however, the authoritatively detailed nature of this book which prevents it from being a good introduction for the general reader. It is the subject matter rather than Moore's style that is to blame for this. He writes with the usual economy and fluency. But the day-to-day details which he must report are so byzantine that the book is, necessarily, an extremely demanding read. Beginners might prefer to begin with the fine work of Hugh Tinker or H. V. Hodson, writers who presume less knowledge on the part of the reader.

James Manor

James Manor is lecturer in politics at the University of Leicester.

BOOKS

Questions of scale

Non-Conforming Radicals of Europe: the future of industrial society
by Edward Goodman
Duckworth, £9.95
ISBN 0 7156 1712 5

If small is beautiful is large ugly? Despite the logical fallacy inherent in such an inference many have unreflectively answered this question in the affirmative. But perhaps small is sometimes beautiful but not always so; perhaps, despite the attractions of small-scale human institutions, they have to be purchased at the expense of efficiency; perhaps size has its own inimitable attractions? As Jean Gimpel (a contributor to this volume) puts it, "my ultimate ambition is to visit Rio de Janeiro where the stadium has a record capacity of 230,000". Let's hope his taxi driver skirts the shanty town on the way!

Certainly since Schumacher's pioneering book it has become de rigueur to see many of mankind's ills as arising from end associated with the scale of human organizations - be they transnational cooperations, bureaucratic nation states or sprawling urban conurbations. Alan Watts is argued, in his timeless quest for the technological set in motion a creeping gigantism which is well nigh beyond his control and which may, if left undisturbed, ultimately destroy those delicate equilibria which he must establish with both nature and his own true self. Furthermore, this quest straddles the boundaries of those venerated categories with which we chart the topography of our socioeconomic world. There are no good and virtuous socialists and evil capitalists here; only the self-bemused mouthing empty slogans at a rising tide.

The Acton Society has over the last few years generously sponsored a number of seminars relating to "the desirable sizes of political and economic units and the quality of working life". These seminars have spawned some very diverse essays, a selection of which has been edited and introduced by Edward Goodman (the guiding spirit behind the seminars) under the title *Non-Conforming Radicals of Europe*. As the title suggests the authors have often taken the opportunity afforded by the seminars to go well beyond the brief set by the Acton Society. Indeed many have sought to diagnose nothing less than the malaises of industrial society and to propose blueprints for alternative futures. The essays are ambitious and range over, among other things, the problems of devising alternative technologies, the problems of world population (the quintessential problem of size), nuclear warfare, zero growth, positional goods, the moral foundations of an alternative society - *et hoc genus omne*.

Having had the privilege to attend one of the seminars myself, in the delightful surroundings of Sicca, I might sound a little churlish of me to say so, but I am afraid the volume does not live up to its high ambitions. The reason why this should be, I will return to later, but first let us sample some of the wares.

Consider for instance "designing a technology on a human scale". Meredith Thompson is quoted as saying: "It is absolutely essential to have a vision of a machine-made utopia which will give nine million people a decent life in the next century". Thring believes that in order to attain this objective the affluent countries of the world must accept a drop in their material standards of living of at least a third. One can agree or disagree with this prognostication but we are nowhere given any analyses of the potential problems we would inevitably encounter in trying to adopt such policies. Another contributor, Jenn Gimpel, anticipates a cataclysmic collapse of industrial civilization, but again though we are given hair-raising account of what this might involve, we are left without any scholarly attempt to convince

us of its likelihood. Roger Garaudy is satisfied to provide us with stateless like: "the direction of growth should be towards human enrichment of all not towards augmenting the power and profits of the few". The aim is that expansion should serve needs and not needs expansion". Quite so, fine sentiments, but we are not told how. Pere Birou says: "everything we have considered for the last four centuries as providing the cultural and social foundations of our life is collapsing beneath our feet". Everything?

Norman Macrae describes himself as an optimist and places faith in the possibility that the revolution in information technology will be the harbinger of a society in which "the domination by big business corporations and by government will come to an end". But again we are given

very little in the way of guidance about the socioeconomic and political realities of such a society beyond the observation that "if we are keen golfers or surf-bathers we'll move to near a golf course or surf-bathing". Others place faith in the writings of established authorities in determining the contours of our future existence: Margaret Casanova would have us read Hannah Arendt for inspiration and Sara Derman makes a plea for Simone Weil. Marx is sprinkled here and there. Robert Oakshott pulls the Mondragon Cooperatives out of the hat, Braverman gets a mention and Fred Hirsch also; there is much talk of small-scale labour intensive sectors and multi-tier economies with more than a whiff of "all back to potter's wheel". But what does it all add up to? Could we on the basis of these essays safely

Nothing to say

Theories of Development
by P. W. Preston
Routledge & Kegan Paul, £13.95
ISBN 0 7100 9055 2

It is a remarkable feat of scholarly perversity anyone was able to write a sizeable book on this subject without referring to the basic facts. In P. W. Preston's *Theories of Development* there is no mention of statistical data of any kind: nothing about gross national product, income per head, density or growth of population, technical innovation, the rate of investment or other similar factors around which the discussion of this problem revolves. Not only are statistical data completely absent but such variables are not even discussed in the abstract. Nor do they figure in the index. Equally absent are any qualitative data about cultures, education, political systems or any other social factors of economic development. There are no references to economic history whether recent or more distant. A Marxist reader would not be able to infer which parts of the earth were rich or poor, let alone for how long. No explanation of a real case is examined. Few countries are mentioned by name. The only historical processes or geographical entities listed in the index are: "Algerian War", "Bay of Pigs", "Bandung Conference", "Civil Rights Movement", "Cuban Revolution", "Great Depression", "Korean War", "Second World War", and "Vietnam War".

Although many writers are mentioned, you will not find out what they have said about any one nation, poor and others rich. The book is devoted to classifying the theories into three main pigeon-holes - "the positivists", "the radicals", "the Marxists" - and their subdivisions such as "neo", "orthodox", "post", "early", and so on. The "positivists" are the naive chaps who believe that you can find out whether statements are true or false, and that you can add to the knowledge of abolition of the closed shop, and the establishment of a Labour Monopoly Commission to which abuses of labour monopoly power could be referred. I am sure Minford has his heart in the right place, but his vision is extraordinarily narrow and the underlying theoretical model, and the statistical and econometric evidence he adduces, leaves much to be desired. A number of serious questions need to be asked and answered.

If the initiating cause of the 2.5 million extra unemployed since 1974, it needs to be shown that the ratio of benefits to earnings and union power have both increased. In fact, real benefits have remained roughly constant since 1972 with, if anything, a slight decline in recent years. Union power has apparently grown on Minford's measure of the proportion of the labour force unionized, but the union power argument only makes sense if the growth of unionization has been associated between union and non-union labour, which is not explicable in terms of differences in productivity or the demand for labour between the sectors. We are

cizing other people despite professing relativism.

If we recall our schema of the sociology of knowledge, [says the author] then we see that... it is impossible to conceive of any progressivity of conceptualization on the model of that supposed to be present in the natural sciences. The notion of "progressivity" is at least dubious in respect of the natural sciences, but seems wholly improbable in the realm of the social sciences.

I can readily agree that in the social sciences progress is very difficult, insecure and often reversed. But unless we assume that we can improve our understanding somehow, study and research, let alone writing about these subjects, become completely pointless, while reading books which are not entertaining become sheer masochism.

S. L. Andreski

S. L. Andreski is professor of sociology at the University of Reading.

Labour and cod

Unemployment: cause and cure
by Patrick Minford
Martin Robertson, £12.50
ISBN 0 85520 622 5

The title of this book is a not accidental. Professor Minford is convinced he has found the cause of rising unemployment: the growing power of trade unions which has raised real wages "too high", and "too generous" social security benefits which keep the real wage outside the unionized sector from falling sufficiently to induce workers to seek (and obtain) work.

Minford would guide us to the promised land of full employment (with or without inflation, he does not say) by limiting the ratio of unemployment benefit to earnings; by tighter procedures for denying benefits; by raising the poverty trap to eliminating the incentive to work; by abolishing the closed shop, and the establishment of a Labour Monopoly Commission to which abuses of labour monopoly power could be referred. I am sure Minford has his heart in the right place, but his vision is extraordinarily narrow and the underlying theoretical model, and the statistical and econometric evidence he adduces, leaves much to be desired. A number of serious questions need to be asked and answered.

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put our faith in a future in which the computer, robots and cheap information play a central role? Should we ride out the revolution in information technology in the happy anticipation that it will provide us with the "tools for conviviality" or a "human scale environment"? Or should we seek to reverse these technological trends for might they not precipitate us into *Nineteen Eighty-Four* a couple of decades later? I doubt that the present volume is even going to begin to answer these problems.

But why should this be so? Clearly the skein of problems addressed is of pressing importance, but they are clearly also highly complex. Solutions will, of necessity, be an amalgam of the normative and the descriptive and will touch upon problems of human motivation, the economics of scale in production and administra-

tion, and the social and economic genesis of technical innovation. Each of these areas has generated a technical literature but unfortunately many of the essays in the present volume show very little awareness of this fact. Perhaps the selection of material was made with an eye to the popular market (for instance highly intriguing papers given at the seminars by Stiglitz, Marris, Thring and Trece are not included) but this selection has unfortunately been made at the expense of relevance and analytical penetration.

I am, for one, still no clearer as to whether or not large is ugly!

Peter Abell

Peter Abell is professor of sociology at the University of Surrey.

Third, what is the *deus ex machina* by which unemployed people become absorbed into the labour force as real wages fall if there is no increase in the demand for output? Is it the substitution of labour for capital; more investment from higher profits; a slowing down of labour-saving technical progress, or what? For Minford it seems to be an act of faith.

Central to the whole argument is the idea that always and everywhere the real wage must ultimately equilibrate the supply of and demand for labour; that workers are always on their supply curves; that the labour demand curve can be drawn downward sloping and that changes in real wages do not themselves shift the demand curve. Grave doubts must be cast on a body of theory which likens the price of labour in an aggregate labour market to the price of cod in the Folkestone fish market and which maintains that there is a surplus of labour only because institutional arrangements keep the real wage "too high", and ergo, flexible real wages guarantee the nirvana of full employment equilibrium.

A return to full employment (say at the 1974 level) without inflation would be possible, with sufficient aggregate demand in the system and no continuous rise in money wages or import prices. Real wages would depend on output per head which would be higher, not lower, in the new state than the old. This is exactly what would have happened had there been a full-scale Falklands war with Argentina. What then of Professor Minford's diagnosis?

A. P. Thirlwall

A. P. Thirlwall is professor of applied economics at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Among the figures discussed in *Twelve Contemporary Economists* are Friedman, Hicks, Robbins and Greff. Edited by J. R. Shekleton and Sarah Locketley the book, first published in 1981, is now reissued as a paperback at £6.95.

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BOOKS

Unrealistic plans

Community Planning and Conceptions of Change by Peter Morris
Routledge & Kegan Paul, £9.95
ISBN 0 7100 9349 7

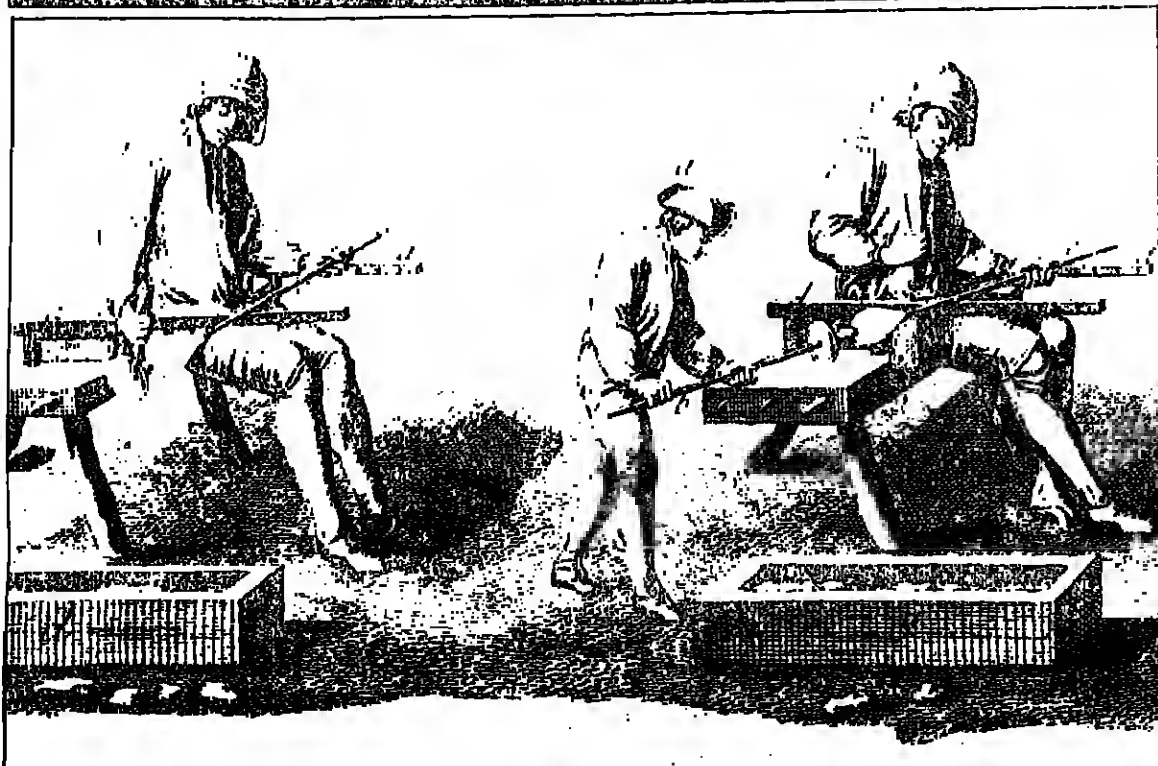
This rather slight but interesting book comes from an author who has closely studied issues of urban poverty and planning in both Britain and the USA. Early chapters deal with the aims and experiences of participants in the community development projects in British cities during the 1970s, and with the evolution of planning for London's Docklands during the same period.

These short accounts are interesting in themselves, although the Docklands' one stops short of the present Government's significant replacement of the hard-won system of joint local government planning by a centrally controlled development corporation. However their main function is to introduce a general discussion of why apparently well-meaning government measures to improve conditions in the inner cities of Britain and the USA have produced such meagre or negative results, of the dilemmas thereby presented to local community activists, and of the need for a new theoretical "paradigm" of social change and the scope for reform.

As Peter Morris sees it, the now discredited liberal ideology believed that democratic governments had positive functions both of maximizing welfare and of reducing inequalities. Derek Mortoll, the enlightened civil servant who worked out the British community development programme, viewed the reduction of poverty and deprivation as crucial for the legitimacy of government administration and he looked forward to a fruitful partnership between administrators, reformers, and the social scientists whose empirical findings would (he hoped) improve the tools of public policy. This partnership did not materialize. The government programme was on too small a scale to make much difference anyway to the problems of the inner cities; the social scientists veered to a neo-Marxist diagnosis of inner city ills which lost them favour; and community activists were torn between co-optation into programmes in which they had little faith or ineffective measures of radical protest.

The hopes placed in the community development programme were unrealistic. Its ideas, especially the faith in community participation and applied social science, were already waning in the USA when imported in a very diluted form into different British conditions. The importation of American policies has been fostered by the prestige of American social science, although British policy-makers, certainly expected that stronger social service traditions and a more cohesive system of administration would ensure better results. In practice, impatient interventions with the workings of local government, backed by only small resources, were not the way to get results, whatever one's ideology. Improvement of the urban environment is a slow process, and requires first from central government a tolerably stable economic framework - which is exactly what was and is lacking.

Here one turns to Morris's account of the continuing beliefs or paradigms of social change. The liberal paradigm fails because it expects the state to be an effective and benevolent promoter of general welfare. The new conservative paradigm which underlies the policies of Thatcher and Reagan is more successful because it states and rationalizes the facts of power. These are that the welfare of local communities is at the disposal of international business and financial decisions which the nation state cannot prevent or offset, and can only turn to advantage through improving the competitive power of its own economy. Welfare programmes are casualties of this necessary turn.



Blewing glass goblets, as shown in "Diderot's Encyclopaedia" (1763). On the left the blower is spreading the roll to make the goblet base and on the right he presses the base on to his apprentice's "panty" in order to disconnect his own blowpipe. Taken from *Five Hundred Years of Technology in the Home* by Doreen Yarwood, published this week by Batsford at £12.50.

even if not ritualized away (as they frequently are) by this latest version of social Darwinism.

Of course, as Morris recognizes, neo-Marxism explains the same facts by a different paradigm which anticipates the collapse of the present international economic system. Morris disbelieves in this collapse because in modern states the solidarity of the working masses has been dissolved into a multiplicity of fragmented interests. Moreover, neo-Marxism is turned with a still more utopian belief in liberalism in the possible benevolence of mass state welfare.

Morris therefore casts around for a counter-paradigm which will help him to forecast and to activate the possible shape of things to come. He finds one in an:

ecological way of seeing things [which] brings out aspects of social and political rights which the liberal paradigm neglected. Instead of thinking about social justice only in terms of the equal treatment of equivalent units, it acknowledges the right of each community of people to a familiar habitat, like creatures in the natural world... social policies cannot therefore be decided by aggregating needs, abstracted from a particular context. They are an integral part of the way work, production, services are coordinated to meet everyone's needs, in complex patterns of interaction which vary from place to place. (page 106)

This emphasis on local life and self-government links naturally to "intermediate" technology, and presumably also with much greater control of technological and economic change so as to preserve the "familiar habitats" that are commended.

This "ecological" paradigm represents a sane humanist response to the extreme centralization of power in the modern world, and to the frighteningly destructive uses of economic or military power. Morris's paradigm accords with a new fashion for regionalism and localism in American social science, which might unfortunately be as superficial as the previous liberal theories. For one thing, how is it to work? If nation states cannot tame international economic power, how are regional or local governments to do so?

And would the results of this "ecological" theory be so generally desirable? There would certainly be plenty of oligarchic discrimination and inequalities among the local habitats: rural the local oligarchs would in practice be mutually supportive like medieval barons and bishops. Morris prays in old order social movements such as women's rights, but in fact the feminist movement is deeply utilitarian - it presses for general laws to emancipate women from even the benevolent power of local patriarchy. There is indeed, ethically and humanly, a lot to be said for the deconcentration of power in the modern world; but, alas, this target needs the help of a

much deeper "paradigm" than Morris has yet produced. It may be that all the various social protest movements can be fused through such a paradigm; but it has not been found yet.

Where does all this leave community action in the inner city? Not much forward, one fears. Morris gives a skilful account of how urban problems have been exacerbated by international capitalism's displacement of uncertainties from big to small firms, from skilled to unskilled workers, from business to government, and from central to local government; but this is mainly to pick out the truth in neo-Marxism. He shows well the need for a new ideology of reform, but perhaps he should examine more closely the elements in liberal or utilitarian reform before he empties the whole bath.

Peter Self

Peter Self is attached to the Urban Research Unit at the Australian National University, Canberra.

Rural pressures

The City's Countryside: Land and its Management in the rural-urban fringe by C. R. Bryant, L. H. Russwurm and A. G. McLellan
Longman, £7.95
ISBN 0 582 30045 2

The lowland countryside accessible to major conurbations has become a battleground, providing the setting for some of the most keenly fought land-use conflicts. We have only to think of the controversies surrounding the Wildlife and Countryside Act, the anti-motorway protests of the 1970s, and the long-running saga of London's third airport. The underlying pressures would seem to be intensifying. The returns from the 1981 census indicate that counter-urbanization - the decanting of population from the conurbations - continues unabated. Moreover, a number of regional economists suggest that much of what little growth potential remains in Britain is concentrated in small and medium-size settlements located in an area stretching from East Anglia to the West Country and South Wales.

Other advanced economies are experiencing similar trends and in their new book, Bryant, Russwurm and McLellan of the University of Waterloo in Canada, reflect on the consequent pressures on the countryside surrounding western cities, drawing on a wide range of regional contexts including the United States, Canada, France, the United Kingdom and Australia to illustrate the types of problems and the changing patterns

of land use encountered in the rural-urban fringe. This is one of the book's considerable strengths.

Its broad geographic range is also matched by a comprehensive coverage of land-use pressures, with separate chapters on residential development, agriculture, industry and commerce, recreational activities, and infrastructure and institutions. The book synthesizes a lot of detailed and esoteric research on the urban fringe conducted mainly by geographers in North America and western Europe during the past 15 years, and places these studies in the broad context of the development of the city region.

Despite these strengths, the book has some major shortcomings. The authors' reliance on a systems approach leads them to diminish conflicts over the use of the urban fringe. Thus, there is little on the politics of planning, on the role of organized interest groups in determining land use, and on the distributional consequences of development decisions. The growth of the city region is treated as a natural process shaped by population pressures, market forces and changing means of transportation. The role of the state in regulating land markets and the role of development interests are given scant attention. In part, this reflects on the authors' failure to exploit the full comparative potential of their range of international examples.

Comparison with the experiences of eastern European and Scandinavian countries would also have been illuminating. However, even within the authors' range of examples, the Home Counties, the Paris basin and southern Ontario present notably different land-use forms and problems as well as similarities, and I would have liked to have seen such differences given some attention and analysis.

Philip Lowe

Philip Lowe lectures in countryside planning at University College London.

Postwar housing

Housing in Britain: the postwar experience by John R. Short
Methuen, £5.95
ISBN 0 416 74290 5

The issues to which this book keeps returning are the linked ones of the relationship between owner-occupation and public housing, the roles of each and the effects of the respective

financial support given to them by governments.

The historical picture presented is not politically neutral. During the postwar years Conservative governments were sympathetic to owner-occupation and unsympathetic to council housing. Labour the other way round - except that, as John Short sees it, Labour administrations never quite had the courage of their socialist convictions and sometimes betrayed them, behaving like their supposed opponents.

The two main tenures have become more and more dominant, as private renting has declined, not only since the end of Hitler's war but since before the beginning of the Kaiser's one. In 1914 90 per cent of housing in England and Wales was privately rented; the proportions were 58 per cent in 1938, 32 per cent in 1960 and 16 per cent in 1975. But, says Short, there has been growing polarization between owners and council tenants and an increasing "welfare" role for the local authority sector. (This assertion seems borne out by the fact that in many districts a majority of council tenants now needs to have some or all of their rent paid for them out of public funds.)

Short argues that the "residual" role of council housing was "mapped out" by the 1956 Housing Subsidies Act. This Conservative measure abolished central government subsidies for housing to meet "general needs" except for blocks of flats higher than four storeys. From then on, until the late 1960s, a growing proportion of new council houses were in physical forms which encouraged the attitude that the tenants - living in barrack-like slab blocks or towers - were in some sense second-class citizens. Later, in the Labour Government's 1977 Green Paper on housing finance, Peter Short failed to honour Anthony Crosland's promise to tackle the "dogs' breakfast" of housing finance and, through his support for owner-occupation at the expense of the public sector, gave a further push in the same direction. Council house sales and cuts in public housing programmes have taken the process further since 1979.

The inequity results, as Short points out, from the fiscal advantages of owner-occupation. The house-buyer is "a privileged investor, one who borrows money at subsidized rates of interest to purchase an asset for which no imputed rent is paid and which can be sold without capital gains tax. The financial incentives to owner-occupation are large and clear". The richer you are, the more you benefit. At the same time, the fact that some people can afford house-purchase while others cannot is likely to encourage, on the basis of the growing polarization of tenures, a more general polarization into those with some wealth (owner-occupiers) and the poor (council tenants).

In a sense, the story of housing in postwar Britain is one of success. Though this book does not make very much of that, it presents some of the relevant evidence. Standards have risen dramatically, largely because of the contribution of public housing. Fewer households now lack the basic amenities, share their dwellings with others or are overcrowded. The numbers and proportion of unfit houses fell sharply between 1951 and 1976. What is more, despite the disastrous blocks of flats inside the cities, most of the new homes built were houses, so that a great majority of families in Britain have a house rather than a flat.

But the politically daunting, financially worrying and technically difficult task of sorting out housing finance remains. So does the question of what to do with council housing. It has other problems apart from those already referred to. Short notes the deadening paternalism and the bureaucratization of local authority management, but he does not relate his theme - the inequity of treatment as between house purchasers and council tenants - to the need for measures to transform the public housing sector itself into some dramatically different arrangement - less stigmatized, more to the human scale and more rewarding.

Peter Willmott

Peter Willmott's latest book is "Inner City Poverty in Paris and London", with Charles Mudge.

BOOKS

Debating nuclear values

Rationality and Ritual: the Windscale Inquiry and nuclear decisions in Britain by Brian Wynne
British Society for the History of Science, £6.50
ISBN 0 906450 02 0

It has taken some five years for Brian Wynne's eagerly-awaited book on the Windscale Inquiry to appear. That 1977 inquiry was, in planning terms, concerned with the proposal by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd to construct a thermal oxide reprocessing plant (THORP) at Windscale, now renamed by one of the minor rituals of nuclear power history as Sellafield in Cumbria.

Since then various monographs and a large number of papers have been written about that specific inquiry and about the public inquiry process in general as a "proper means" for public debate. Windscale was important because of its promise to range wider than the site-specific details to an all-embracing debate about nuclear power and Britain's energy future. In the event, as we all now know, a "great debate" of sorts took place but it played little or no role in the eventual decision to sanction THORP.

That there was an open invitation to such a broad-ranging debate and then such a let-down when the wider issues were so summarily treated in the inspector's report is treated in much to explain the disillusionment of the anti-nuclear groups with the public inquiry as a political forum. None the less, despite the refusal of some, it is instructive that they have resumed the battle at Sizewell in 1983.

Wynne's book has features of immense value in this context. He outlines the arguments put at the inquiry and there are several valuable nuggets of information for historians of nuclear power, as when he discusses the squabbles between the protesting groups and the extent to which their own case suffered through lack of coordination. Wynne himself acted almost single-handedly as the advocate for the Network for Nuclear Concern.

The history of THORP is detailed and set against a somewhat brief (perhaps necessarily so) overview of nuclear power history. Wynne's dominant aim, however, is to go behind the inquiry as administrative process to look at the social relations in decision-making and to apply some sociology to the nuclear debate as typified at the inquiry. In this he is successful, although one wonders just how novel the results are compared to earlier, more linguistically explicit, accounts of the process. There is, for example, nothing new in drawing attention to fears of "technological drift" - the tendency of technology to develop faster than the means for its democratic control - or to the remoteness and distance in decision-making.

Nor is the message that the local inquiry is a "fiction" in so far as it deludes anyone into thinking that it could negate or even significantly modify pre-ordained national policy, however vaguely specified. That conclusion can be quickly reached by observing that the local inquiry is an administrative procedure that emanates from the days of railway development where the tacit right to develop was assumed and only those materially affected could object. The "great debate" at Windscale was between advocates of a specific development who were synonymous with advocacy of nuclear power, and opponents of the general idea that nuclear power is germane to our energy future but all of whom were third-party objectors with focus steadily achieved only through the suffering of the system. Nor is there novelty in observing that the nuclear debate is not, about specific claims to

safety, or technical achievement or the price of electricity: it is, as I well recall writing in *Nature* five years ago, about values.

What Wynne does is to show us that these observations have, as it were, a further layer of the sociological union, a whole sociology of the power structure involved in issues of this kind. In this, although he does not spell it out, nuclear power is no different to anything else. It is useful too to categorize the sequences through which this debate has gone, from the stifling of opposition, to confinement to specific "factual" issues which, as Wynne points out, beg the social context of the facts, to recourse to "experts". All this describes the "ritual" needed to assent to the nature of the debate and its institutional setting. And one can readily forgive the author for some special pleading for his own expert witnesses at Windscale.

Big questions remain. Is the kind of analysis Wynne uses enough to explain the alleged social indifference of those ultimately responsible? His answer is in terms of a dangerous propensity for self-delusion in the nuclear industry. If this is true, it perhaps provides the answer to the other major question ignored by Wynne, namely, why nuclear power is elevated to a matter of "special concern". After all, if nuclear power is not so different to the myriad other investments in technologies with associated risks, and which reflect prevailing power structures, then pro-nuclear advocates have some reason to feel irritated at being picked on. Nor is the sociology of opposition explained, although Wynne is characteristically fair in highlighting the weaknesses of that opposition.

Finally, if, as some of us have persisted in saying all along, Wynne is right to criticize the public inquiry as forum, what is the solution? There are occasional encouraging noises about the never-introduced Public Inquiry Commission but, by the end of the book, one is left wondering whether Brian Wynne sees the solution only in some kind of unspecified wholesale restructuring of the decision-making procedure. Even if, from the standpoint of the history of science, this may be the wrong question to ask, it unfortunately remains the one of real world interest.

Wynne's book deserves careful scrutiny. It is refreshingly frank and generally unqualified in its criticisms. It brings more analysis to bear on the inquiry procedure than has perhaps hitherto been the case, even if its claims to originality exceed the historical truth. As Sizewell speeds on, all participants must be advised to do as Wynne unsuccessfully tried to do at Windscale and seek a pause for reflection. In the pause they might do worse than read this book.

David Pearce

David Pearce is professor of political economy at the University of Aberdeen.

Decision framework

Civil Engineering Systems by Andrew B. Templeman
Macmillan, £25.00 and £12.95
ISBN 0 333 28509 3 and 28510 7

The author of this book, based on lecture courses given over a number of years to civil engineering students at the University of Liverpool, defines civil engineering systems as being concerned with the decision-making process within the civil engineering profession. He ably demonstrates that the disciplines of operations research, management science and mathematical optimization, which have all blossomed since World War II and which are all concerned with quantitative methods for solving decision-making problems, can also be applied in civil engineering. He does not, however, attempt to cover these disciplines fully but instead concentrates on those aspects which have relevance in civil engineering.

The philosophy of systems engineering is introduced in an exceedingly well-written chapter, which should be of value to engineers from

many other disciplines. Taking as his hypothesis that most major projects contain four distinct phases - planning; design; construction; and operation - he then considers each phase and shows that they can be expressed as an optimization problem.

Optimization is often thought of in a numerical mathematical sense. In fact it is more than this. Templeman defines it as the general desire always to do the best with the available resources, to produce the best possible plan or design, and to make the best possible decision. It means selecting the best from a number of feasible alternatives. Sometimes logical mathematical methods can be used to make this selection; at others engineers select the best alternative using past experience. However, although this statement appears in chapter one, the author concentrates on those examples where mathematical methods are readily available.

Templeman describes the systematic decision-making approach as consisting of four questions: What decision must be made? How are the decisions related and what external factors limit them? What criteria determine whether the decisions made are good or bad? and how can the best decisions be made? The book is devoted to showing by examples that these four questions are fundamental to all decision-making and that they provide a logical framework for making decisions.

Ten significantly different types of mathematical optimization problem are selected and examples are then given of how each arises in civil engineering and the solution method described. For example, the problems of earth-moving operations, the production schedule of a precasting plant and the design of rigid-plastic frameworks are all shown in chapter two to be linear programming problems. The simplest method of solution for small problems is then treated in detail. My only criticism of this section is that it fails to mention the need for much more sophisticated to be included in codes to solve problems of practical size and because the examples are so small it may give the reader a false impression that the solution of such problems is trivial. It would surely have been helpful if civil engineers had been made aware that good commercial codes exist for solving both linear and integer programming problems. The description of the method does, however, illustrate simply why these codes work, and the examples and exercises will be very valuable for both students and teachers.

Chapter four deals with topics which can be shown to be connected to the mathematical theory of networks and graphs; these include critical path analysis, resource allocation, maximum flow problems and sewage treatment. Similarly, chapter five takes a purification process, the problems of drainage design and of tower crane allocation as examples of dynamic programming.

Chapter six, on nonlinearity, shows that beam design, pipe design and the design of storage tanks all lead to nonlinear optimization problems. Unfortunately the description of unconstrained optimization methods is dated, reflecting the position in about 1971. The Brody-Fletcher-Shanno-Goldfarb variable metric method, most widely recognized now as the best available, is not even mentioned. Chapter eight provides a very brief description of methods for nonlinearly constrained problems, followed by an excellent treatment of geometric programming. Chapter nine contains the formulation of a number of practical nonlinear problems, and a final chapter discusses probabilistic decision-making.

Despite my criticisms, this is a very valuable book. It shows in an unrivalled way how optimization can be used to solve practical problems in a particular discipline. It provides a set of examples of problem formulation and a set of exercises of value to students and lecturers. I strongly recommend it, not only to civil engineers but also to a much wider readership.

L. C. W. Dixon

L. C. W. Dixon is reader in numerical computation and head of the Numerical Optimization Centre at the Hatfield Polytechnic.

Fossil range

Introduction to Palaeobiology: general palaeontology by Bernhard Ziegler
Ellis Horwood, Wiley,
£30.00 and £12.50
ISBN 0 85312 211 3 and 531 7

The first edition of Professor Ziegler's book, published in Germany in 1970, was highly acclaimed and very successful. Now produced in an English language version, based upon the second German edition, its appearance will be much appreciated. The translation is nicely done and only rarely does a mild confusion in terminology arise.

As the title suggests, the book is an introductory text concerned not with descriptive morphology and taxonomy but with general principles. These are grouped under eight headings dealing in turn with major divisions of the organic world, processes of fossilization, systematics and taxonomy, evolution theory, biogeography, mode of life of fossils, and their ecology and biogeography. This selection looks like an inviting potpourri, and the book actually turns out to be very good indeed, especially for students in their second year of undergraduate study.

What is immediately striking and particularly effective from the students' point of view are the 250 very clear and most attractive line drawings, occupying nearly as much space as the text itself. These illustrations summarize a remarkable amount of information, which is well presented and should be clearly understandable and easily memorized. Those in chapter one, for example, illustrating the major divisions and time ranges of plant and animal life, are coupled to a short synopsis of the classification of living organisms, which, particularly effective from the students' point of view are the 250 very clear and most attractive line drawings, occupying nearly as much space as the text itself. These illustrations summarize a remarkable amount of information, which is well presented and should be clearly understandable and easily memorized. Those in chapter one, for example, illustrating the major divisions and time ranges of plant and animal life, are coupled to a short synopsis of the classification of living organisms, which,

though not itself sufficient to give a detailed understanding of the groups, provides a very useful *aide-memoire*. Other drawings range through processes of post-mortem disintegration, stratigraphic occurrence of fossils, sea-floor communities, food chains and faunal provinces, most of the examples being taken from various parts of Europe.

Although the text is very concise (in places it reads rather like good lecture notes), some might argue that it is too brief; and while it categorizes and briefly explains concepts, it does not treat them in any depth. Of course, Ziegler's text is not intended to cover the complete palaeontology curriculum by itself, and will need to be combined with standard descriptive palaeontology from other sources. In this respect it may replace Brouwer's *General Palaeontology*; and to a certain extent it overlaps with Raup and Stanley's widely used *Principles of Palaeontology* (1978), although the latter is more advanced and concerned with more specific themes.

I can certainly recommend this book to undergraduates as the best available introduction to general palaeontology. Indeed, some topics (processes of fossilization, principles of taxonomy) are better treated here than in any comparable text.

E. N. K. Clarkson

E. N. K. Clarkson is reader in geology at the University of Edinburgh.

A third edition of *The Origins of Digital Computers: selected papers*, edited by Brian Randell, has been published by Springer at DM68. Two additional papers have been reprinted: one on the pre-war work by Vannevar Bush in connexion with his rapid orichthetrical machine project at MIT, and the other on the slightly later work at RCA by Jan Rajchman on digital electronic binary systems. The unnoted bibliography has also been greatly increased in size, to over 850 items.

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BOOKS

A captive bird

The Tangled Wing: biological constraints on the human spirit by Melvin Konner
Heinemann, £16.50
ISBN 0 434 39703 2

One of the most controversial claims made by the Harvard biologist E. O. Wilson in his book *Sociobiology* (the new synthesis was that, by the end of this century, sociobiology will be a sub-discipline of neurobiology. Quite apart from its stark reductionist implication that human social life is ultimately comprehensible in terms of neural processes, this prediction was particularly surprising in that Wilson's book - which covered numerous other biological topics in meticulous detail - conspicuously omitted any treatment of neurobiology. Such a far-reaching claim should surely have been supported by hard evidence.

While biologists generally accept that human behaviour depends upon proper functioning of the nervous system, this is a far cry from general acceptance of the view that neurobiological processes exert a deterministic influence on human action. For this reason alone, there is at least some justification in the widespread criticism of *Sociobiology* as a vehicle of biological determinism. It is within this context that Melvin Konner's *The Tangled Wing* will undoubtedly be appraised by many of its readers, and the author himself was clearly aware of this.

As a biologist who has for some years worked at Harvard University, so to speak at the eye of the storm of controversy surrounding sociobiology, Konner has been directly exposed not only to the teachings of some of the major advocates of this "new discipline", but also to the counter-arguments of some of the most vociferous critics of the sociobiological school. In his book, he sets forth across the treacherous terrain spotlighted by this controversy in a refreshingly original attempt to define what biology has to contribute to our understanding of human behaviour, without implying the supremacy of biological processes over any other factors governing human action. Indeed, mention of "biological constraints" (rather than "biological determinants") in the subtitle aptly conveys his view that biological factors are a significant, but not over-riding, component of the overall picture.

This is surely a reasonable approach that is both appropriately modest and properly reflective of biological reality, as in the wide variety of medical conditions involving behavioural disruption through biological malfunction. Konner is, first and foremost, a biologist and it is the biological processes involved in human behaviour that provide the primary focus for his book, but he takes great pains to emphasize the limitations of biology in the formulation of any comprehensive explanatory framework. (Incidentally, the "tangled wing" of the title is a biological metaphor from Konner's experience as a student, seeing for the first time the jumbled fossilized remains of *Archaeopteryx*, and being told - somewhat crudely - that it was neither a proper reptile nor a proper bird.)

The Tangled Wing is a pleasure to read for anyone interested in biological aspects of human behaviour and it has, of itself, three particularly strong points. First, Konner - unlike the vast majority of sociobiologists - has usually studied people, particularly during his extensive field-work with the !Kung-San hunter-gatherers of the Kalahari Desert. Second, he is well versed in neurobiology, particularly with respect to the human brain, and accordingly well-equipped to spell out both the importance and the limitations of neurobiological evidence. Finally, but by no means least, Konner has a particular flair for writing. Among other accomplishments, he is a published poet and his elegant prose style combines



"Stream of Nine Windings", the sort of Chinese landscape that enchanted Robert Fortune (1813-80), one of the main adventurers described in Charles Lytton's *The Plain Hunters*, published next week by Orbis at £8.95.

with his encyclopaedic command of the literature to make *The Tangled Wing* an outstanding work of scholarship.

Definitions of "sociobiology" vary widely. In some quarters, the subject is virtually limited to the concepts of kin selection and inclusive fitness, based on genetic models which depend heavily upon studies of social insects for their empirical justification. Konner (again quite reasonably) has instead chosen to take a very broad view of sociobiology, and he specifically points out that the science of ethology (comparative study of animal behaviour) is more mature, more substantive in its findings and more secure than sociobiology, in the narrow sense. He also states his belief that "the failure of behavioural science up to the present day, results, precisely, from the pursuit of clear-cut, all-embracing theories." On the one hand, this broad approach is laudable in that it underlines the real diversity of biological factors involved in human behaviour (regardless of any inferred or demonstrable genetic foundation); on the other hand it considerably complicates any attempt to establish a unitary theoretical framework.

This, however, is exactly Konner's point: we can recognize individual biological constraints on human behaviour and pursue their implications without necessarily embarking on a vain search for a confined set of principles that will neatly encapsulate the entire subject. To be sure, it is a superficially more satisfying to lead a text that seems to present a package of clear-cut principles, and in this regard many readers of *The Tangled Wing* may feel a certain sense of disappointment. Such readers, however, according to their personal inclinations, can always find their satisfaction in the numerous books that derive their clear-cut principles from sociobiology (at the heavy cost of reductionism) or in those whose clear-cut principles stem from the equally self-assured "tabula rasa" school (at the comparably heavy cost of rejecting any relevance of biology to the understanding of human be-

haviour). This provides dramatic support for Konner's indirect inference from his field observations. It also finely illustrates the reciprocal relationship between human behaviour and biological processes: just as the phenomenon of lactation represents a basic biological mechanism with extensive behavioural repercussions, culturally influenced maternal practices may exert direct biological effects as in the earlier resumption of cycling contingent upon suckling on schedule and/or suppression of nighttime suckling.

The functioning of the central nervous system is central to Konner's discussion of human behaviour. He draws upon a vast range of evidence, extending from neurochemistry through to psychiatry and sociological surveys, in the attempt to produce a review of the diverse biological constraints involved. This is obviously a mammoth undertaking, and the understanding falls well short of a proper synthesis, and a few carefully selected diagrams would undoubtedly have aided the uninitiated reader in this excursion through the complexities of the human nervous system. Nevertheless, a compelling image gradually emerges, portraying a highly complex brain that develops along well-defined lines (barring accidents) to provide both the basic machinery and the general constraints for human behaviour. Among other things, Konner cites evidence of genetic errors affecting brain function, of hormonal influence operating in various contexts, of specific localization of certain brain functions, and of sex differences that are evident even in neonates.

An incidental highlight in the text is the thoughtful discussion of Freud's theories, which (in line with the general tenor of the book) are roundly criticized in many respects while receiving credit where appropriate. It is puzzling that, whereas Freud's initial training was in neurobiology, he made no real attempt to link the psychiatric principles developed in his later work to neurobiological structures or processes. In microcosm, this internal hiatus in Freud's own intellectual progress epitomizes the persisting gulf between biological understanding of brain function and interpretations of the human mind. *The Tangled Wing* provides at least some hope that this gulf may one day be closed.

Apart from the charge of reductionism, sociobiology has also attracted criticism because some of its pronouncements may provide ammunition for those who seek justification for discriminatory sociopolitical practices. Konner wisely adds a caveat at the end of his book which recognizes the dangers of speculation about biological constraints on human behaviour and lets some salutary examples showing how spurious support for political doctrines has been provided in the past. The dangers are therefore real, and Konner concludes that biologists should proceed, but with special caution, in this particular area. Again, his approach seems to be eminently reasonable, but one might fault him for placing this vital caveat at the end of his book rather than at the beginning.

R. D. Martin

R. D. Martin is professor of physical anthropology at University College London, and currently an associate professor at the Musée de l'Homme, Paris.

Vivat holism

Hierarchy: perspectives for ecological complexity by T. F. H. Allen and Thomas B. Starr
University of Chicago Press, £19.25
ISBN 0 226 01431 2

Modern ecology has been dominated by the reductionist approach, attempting to build an understanding of ecosystems from studying two species interactions. Allen and Starr argue that this is intellectually unsatisfactory; holism suggests a much more valid attempt to find the simplest explanation

of the functioning whole.

In the authors' view, a hierarchy is rather like a tree with a lot of branching points or nodes. Any one branch of the tree can be viewed as giving rise to a lot of thinner branches above it, or coming from a lot of thicker branches below it. The central tenet of this book is the recognition of the concept of the "holon", that is, any entity or any one of these branching points - although an ecosystem is rather unlike a tree in that the branching points are discrete entities and energy or nutrients flow from one to the other. In their attempt to simplify the hierarchy or tree, however, the authors may have merely rediscovered multivariate analysis, a technique already useful in simplifying complex systems by presenting them as, usually, two-dimensional pictures which can be more readily understood.

There is considerable scope for discussion as to whether this concept of an entity is limited to a biological context or whether it could be more generally applied, as well as whether the holon is purely arbitrarily defined, or whether it can only be applied at discrete points in the hierarchy. Whatever the arguments, a holon is essentially the old "black box" of the compartmental modelers. Such a definition allows one to generalize complex ecosystems to smaller entities than the individual or the population, since organs, cells or organelles can all be viewed as holons.

The book is divided into three sections. The first essentially deals with definitions, using the embracing term "theory of middle-number systems", a middle number system being any "case where there are too few parts to average their behaviour reliably and too many parts to manage each separately with its own equation." By and large the authors argue that ecologists are either dealing with over-simple models or losing their way when they attempt to investigate complex systems. Middle-number systems are seen as offering the way forward, and the book progresses to a series of four chapters, which attempt to argue that biology should be viewed as a complex middle-number system.

The authors were obviously inspired by ideas first expounded by Arthur Koestler in his book *The Ghost in the Machine* (1967). "As a pioneer in the field, Koestler very appropriately conducted a detailed argument on the superiority of hierarchical over mechanistic approaches and warned against the dangers of obligate reductionism." However, although they support his views with examples of their own, they rely heavily on his defence and devote their efforts to "some of the concrete consequences of the use of hierarchies."

The examples are often non-biological, presumably because these are a lot more apparent than biological ones and because Koestler's writing was non-biological (for example, the consideration of military structure). Here, I felt that the authors were looking for anything to support their case. Why use half a page to illustrate the Port Office page to show the London underground system?

Biology seems to return in the final and largest section of the book: six chapters dealing with scale and complex systems. A wide variety of ecological topics are picked up, briefly considered, and dropped again. Some sections are excellent; I particularly liked the rejection of the linearization of gradients, but I am sure that the rejection will be controversial. The casual reader should beware that the chapter titles, heavily slanted by the missionary message of the book, do not necessarily reflect the contents of the chapter. Despite the modelling framework laid earlier in the book, there is very little mathematics in this section.

The book is not easy to read, as the arguments are not necessarily simple to follow. However, the discussion is a good, though somewhat biased, one, which I feel ecologists ought to read if only to make them aware of how they are approaching their research.

Michael Usher

Michael Usher is senior lecturer in biology at the University of York.

BOOKS

PHILOSOPHY

Law of nature

John Locke's Moral Philosophy by John Coleman
Edinburgh University Press, £20.00
ISBN 0 85224 445 2
Understanding Locke: an introduction to philosophy through John Locke's Essay by John J. Jenkins
Edinburgh University Press, £15.00 and £7.50
ISBN 0 85224 442 8 and 449 5

The political theory which Locke expounded in the *Two Treatises of Government* and the *Letter on Toleration* is still as widely discussed by academic commentators as that of any liberal or conservative political thinker. The theory of knowledge advanced in his *Essay concerning Human Understanding* has been defended and criticized virtually without interruption since the year of its publication. But the moral theory on which the argument of the *Two Treatises* depends and which it was arguably the main purpose of the *Essay* to establish has received far less attention.

Early readers of the *Essay*, both sympathetic and hostile, were quick to fasten on its claim that moral truths are susceptible of demonstration, and many pressed Locke embarrassingly for evident instances of the validity of his claim. Some leading modern interpreters of Locke's political theory, notably Peter Laslett, have insisted on the apparent incongruity between the approaches of the two works; the *Essay*'s empiricist dismissal of the possibility of epistemic relevance of innate ideas clashing directly with the explicit presumption of the *Two Treatises* that the law of nature was not merely the appropriate moral standard for determining the fundamental issues of men's political and moral life but that it was written plainly in the hearts of all mankind.

The major modern contribution to the understanding of Locke's moral theory came with Dr Wolfgang von Leyden's impressive edition of the *Essays on the Law of Nature* in 1954. The introduction to this edition sets out the main elements of Locke's theory with great force and economy and emphasizes the tension between the rationalist and voluntarist elements of his conception of the law of nature. Since its publication there have been a number of further studies which provide some real illumination of Locke's thinking about morality: the introduction by Philip Abrams to *Two Treatises on Government*, chapters or articles by Hans Akeel, Richard Ashcraft and John Abbot and large sections of Merwyn Jones's *Locke on Freedom* and James Tully's *A Discourse on Property*. But there has been no full-scale study of Locke's thinking about morality as a whole, treating its development, its logical architecture and its philosophical agency. John Coleman's new book at last provides just this. It is a thoughtful and thorough work, admirably sensitive to Locke's own intellectual preoccupations and persistently committed to assessing his arguments by rigorous philosophical standards.

On the whole, it is extremely successful in doing a few details are less satisfactory. The implications of Locke's own estimate of the intellectual and practical viability of his approach are treated a trifle rudely by Dr von Leyden, grounds advanced by Locke did continue genuinely to vacillate between a voluntarist and a rationalist, or intellectualist conception of the relation between the will of God and the content and obligatory force of the law of nature do not receive a wholly convincing handling. If obligation as such rests really on the will of God, why should He be determined by what is best and why should He be tied

(indeed how could He be tied) by grants, promises or oaths? The attempt to portray Locke's account of the structure of values such as justice as conceptually dependent on conjectural history is weakly presented and finally unconvincing. The treatment of the relation between the state of nature and the state of war, although it eventually reaches persuasive conclusions, does so by a less than direct route and contains at least one important vagary in the argument. But many components of the theory are presented with admirable lucidity, some of them virtually for the first time since Locke himself wrote.

The theory itself comes out (as indeed it should) as a remarkably impressive piece of intellectual construction, though some of the main elements of which it is made up preclude it from serving our own immediate intellectual purposes to any great extent. It remains true, of course, that Locke did not succeed in writing what he himself regarded as a major and fundamentally successful work of moral theory. But his failure to do so was certainly no index of his superficiality as a moral theorist and

Reporting Nietzsche's viewpoint

Nietzsche by Richard Schacht
Routledge & Kegan Paul, £18.50
ISBN 0 7100 9191 5

Why does Nietzsche still seem to many so exciting a thinker? The central theme of his philosophy was the terrifying situation presented to mankind by "the death of God". It seemed to him that as theism could no longer command intelligent and honest assent, man must fall into despairing nihilism through realization that the whole moral outlook and sense of significance which rested on it was baseless unless he could create for himself a new table of values. Today it is the norm to inhabit a godless universe, yet most people jog along without either terror or new values, living with moderate contentment with a permissive version of Christian morality and feeling that any consternation at God's death is rather overwrought - it would be more shocking to hear that he was alive and kicking.

Nietzsche anticipated this rather cosy reaction, telling us that it might take centuries before the emptying of significance from the world by the death of God sank in; yet we might say that it is rather time that has been required for recognition that, contra Nietzsche, most of what previously seemed valuable could still be retained without divine support. Nevertheless it is right to see Nietzsche as still a frighteningly challenging thinker. He is virtually alone in his attack on an ethics which values selfishness as the highest virtue, his dismissal of the alleviation of suffering as an important or even desirable goal, and his insistence that what matters is not how comfortably or otherwise humans live out their empty lives, but that the species should spawn a few high spots of surpassing excellence. True, we have something of a turning away from ideals of equality in contemporary politics in the West, but this is not inspired by a wish to promote human greatness for its own sake but as a recipe for the increase of humdrum comforts for a majority.

Thus Nietzsche remains the one moral philosopher who presents an alternative both to parcelled fanaticisms and to convergence on an ethics of humanitarianism. The horror of the only realized non-traditional political system which, in frankly challenging any such convergence, saw Nietzsche as one of its forebears, has added an extra element of fascination to the figure of Nietzsche whose evident greatness stands in a puzzling relation to that human debacle, not to receive a wholly convincing handling. If obligation as such rests really on the will of God, why should He be determined by what is best and why should He be tied

it is impossible to think of a moral philosopher writing in the last half century whose work is likely to prove itself able in nearly three centuries time to stand up to the companion with Locke's thinking on this question in range, insight, power and the capacity to carry through a truly systematic analysis.

John Jenkins's *Understanding Locke* is a less ambitious work. It offers an introduction to philosophy through the discussion of a number of issues, principally epistemological or ontological, which are raised in the *Essay*. It is lucid, direct and pleasant to read and it shows a thorough acquaintance with the text of the *Essay*. Understandably less sensitive than Colmao to Locke's own preoccupations in his life and in his other works, it would make a reasonably accessible introduction to philosophy but might perhaps fail to convey to the uninitiated that the latter was a tremendously profound or exciting subject.

John Dunn

John Dunn is a fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

tic tendencies while adumbrating an essentially biological view of the bases of the varieties of human conceptions.

The upshot has been that commentators have come forward to present Nietzsche in many different guises, as existentialist, as analytic philosopher, as unwitting Christian (!), as great-hearted humanist... It is difficult to identify any particular slant on Nietzsche that is offered by the present book. If it is possible to write on the great prophet of perspectivism without a personal perspective Richard Schacht has done it. It is essentially a work of, as I find it, accurate reportage in which the viewpoint of Nietzsche on all the main topics with which he concerned himself, particularly in his later works, from *Zarathustra* onwards, are brought together and presented, not apophorically, but as a thesis elaborated in a conventionally discursive manner. This is worth doing, for it brings out the fact that Nietzsche really had a systematic coherent philosophy and was not merely the purveyor of assorted aperçus linked only by a certain general mood, as can easily be thought.

My only general criticism of the content of the reportage is that the author does not keep sufficiently apart from each other distinctions which he thinks needs to be made between different usages of terms if Nietzsche is to be saved from contradiction, and distinctions which Nietzsche himself drew himself. This applies to distinctions the author makes between different sorts of truth and "truth analysis" and different senses of "morality". As regards presentation I have to say that the book, which runs to 535 pages, is quite amazingly long-winded, repetitious and stylistically clumsy. The philosopher who liked to think of himself as leaping lightly from peak to peak is here made to march in leaden boots.

One cannot say, either, that much of interest is offered by way of evaluation of the worth of Nietzsche's arguments, such as they are, or of his conclusions. The general line might have been summed up in the statement that Nietzsche is very likely right on most things, and his positions always bear careful thinking on, even if they are not strictly proved. In a book of such length one might expect a more vigorous confrontation of Nietzsche's positions with the many objections they need to contend with which occur to any philosophical reader, or, if a more descriptive approach is to be taken, some discussion of the fate of such ideas in subsequent thought, a matter hardly touched on.

But if not a dazzling work, it is, I believe, original in presenting in English a balanced account of what Nietzsche's fairly steady view really was on such matters as the nature of truth and knowledge, theism, the will to power, morality, and in a valuable final chapter, on art.

T. L. S. Sprigge

T. L. S. Sprigge is professor of logic and metaphysics at the University of Edinburgh.

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BOOKS

PHILOSOPHY

Inverting Hegel

The Young Hegelians: an anthology introduced and edited by Lawrence S. Stepelevich
Cambridge University Press, £29.50 and £9.95
ISBN 0 521 24539 7 and 28772 3

Not so very long ago the majority of the writers represented in this volume would have been regarded as lying, becalmed and largely forgotten, in an obscure backwater of the history of ideas. They belonged to a progressively-minded group of intellectuals who were active in Germany during the 1830s and 1840s and who became known as "Young Hegelians" because of their opposition to the conception of Hegel's philosophy standardly favoured by an older generation of academics. Although for a time they achieved a certain prominence as radical iconoclasts, the notoriety that fleetingly crowned their efforts cannot be said to have survived the frustration of revolutionary hopes in 1848 and they largely tended to lapse into oblivion.

More than a century later, however, there has been a conspicuous revival of interest in what they wrote, a revival that owes much to a resurgence of Hegelian studies in the English-speaking world and to the reappraisal of the origins of Marxism which has accompanied it. Even so — as the editor points out in the preface to his anthology — it is commonly supposed that they should be understood as constituting no more than "a link between Hegel and the present" or again as merely contributing to "the matrix in which Marxism was formed". Hence it is arguable that any posthumous glory which may belatedly have befallen them is of a reflected character, deriving mainly if not entirely from the two influential figures with whom they were historically associated.

It would certainly be hard to deny the significance of the Young Hegelian movement from the latter standpoint. When Hegel died in 1831 he was widely esteemed as the author of a "Restoration" philosophy which had conferred theoretical respectability on the orthodoxies of post-Napoleonic Prussia. Not only was he credited with the creation of an idealistic metaphysics that conclusively proved the tenets of Lutheran theology to be fully reconcilable with the requirements of reason; he was also seen as having propounded an account of historical development that apparently legitimized the established social order and thereby justified acquiescence in the existing political arrangements. By a dialectical transition, whose irony the master

himself might possibly have appreciated had he lived to witness it, the notion that his doctrines demanded an altogether different interpretation captured the imaginations of his younger followers with the force of a revelation. Thus under their hands the received version of his thought was rejected and a set of diametrically opposed conclusions drawn as to its essential import: in a succession of stages, which followed one another with hectic rapidity, metaphysical idealism was replaced by empirical naturalism, then by humanism, and political conservatism by a radicalism which either looked forward to the rational reconstruction of society or — at the other extreme — advocated the adoption of an unrestricted individualism.

Each of these contentions found distinct exponents; moreover, the grounds upon which the proposed transformations were based greatly varied. While some thinkers, such as Strauss and Bruno Bauer, were ready to appeal confidently if not always plausibly to Hegel's own texts in support of their claims, there were others, like Feuerbach and subsequently Marx, who argued that it was necessary to subject the Hegelian system itself to a fundamental critique; it was only by systematically "inverting" the terms in which Hegel had formulated his theses that the

truths they concealed could be presented in a "pure" or "unmasked" form. It is a virtue of Lawrence Stepelevich's collection that it succeeds in clearly exhibiting this somewhat bewildering diversity of aims and method. Furthermore, his informative introductions to the writings he has included — a number of which have not been translated before — help the reader to appreciate the resourceful ingenuity displayed by their authors in seeking to extract from Hegelian conceptions novel or subversive implications: this was especially true of Strauss and Feuerbach, both of whom in fact exercised a considerable influence upon later approaches to religious belief.

Whether or not one accepts the editor's suggestion that it may be time to treat the products of the Young Hegelian school as being of intrinsic rather than of merely historical interest, there can be no question that he has performed a notable service in bringing together so many representative works within a handy and manageable compass.

Patrick Gardiner

Patrick Gardiner is a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Socratic quest

Plato: *Hippias Major* translated, with commentary and essay, by Paul Woodruff
Blackwell, £12.50
ISBN 0 631 13091 8

The *Hippias Major* has been a nuisance to Plato's interpreters for nearly two hundred years. They have damned its structure as pointlessly repetitive, its characterization as inconsistent.

Hippias is meant to be clever, versatile, witty and successful, but he talks like a fool, while for a literary and philosophical hero Socrates has a quite improper, if not downright rude, manner. He argues badly. Again, if the dialogue is Plato's it must be relatively early Plato: but critics have detected undigested morsels of "doctrine" belonging to his mature middle years. Many older commentators argued that its author is an imitator, borrowing unskillfully from different phases of Plato's thought. Nowadays Plato's authorship is usually accepted, but some embarrassment remains: how can the infelicities identified by earlier scholars be explained away?

Paul Woodruff sets out to convince us that they were never there in the first place. Through his translation, commentary, and eight-chapter essay he argues that its structure and characterization have been misunderstood and undervalued, and that in consistency and cogency of thought it is of a piece with other transitional dialogues such as *Gorgias*

and *Menon*. Taken overall, his reading is persuasive: I, at least, am a convert. On occasion, his eagerness to find good philosophy leads him to see non-existent sophistications. His translation, seeking to preserve both comedy and philosophical precision, sometimes founders. His notes most infuriatingly jumble real insights with banalities. Some analyses in the essay are questionable: his account of "logical causation", for instance, begins helpfully, but ends, I think, in flat self-contradiction. Certainly, however, there is worthwhile stuff here to argue about; and his studies of Socratic methods in relation to Plato's metaphysics, and of Socrates' ethical preconceptions and objectives, offer real illumination.

Socrates tries to extract from his slippery opponent a definition of the *kalon*, the "fine". Inevitably, the exercise fails. Hippias's most promising suggestion is that the fine is, that which produces good: Socrates' counter-argument is usually condemned as blatantly fallacious. Here Woodruff is at his most interesting, defending it as a properly Platonic refutation of utilitarianism. It turns, he claims, on the thesis that if to be fine is to be productive of good, then to be fine cannot also be to be good; and the consequences of this are intolerable. Here he is right; but he is wrong in supposing the underlying principle to be genuinely Platonic, the principle "You cannot have different sorts of thing in virtue of the same logical cause." The passages he cites show Plato's adherence to it only where the "different things" are mutually exclusive, or at least can appear independently. Finesness and good cannot — otherwise the "intolerable" consequence could simply be true.

Now elsewhere, most relevantly in the *Euthydemus*, Plato argues that utilitarian analyses of value lead to circularity. "Good" turns out to mean "productive of good", and so on. Here, I suggest, he tries to show that utilitarian accounts of "fine" can avoid regress only by applying his principle, illegitimately, to the cases of "fine" and "good", entailing the consequence that what is fine cannot by that fact be good. For Plato this is absurd: hence his principle's application is inept and the regress inevitable.

Woodruff's interpretation here may be faulty, but it is characteristically illuminating: it needed only to be relocated. The book's great virtue is that it helps to place the dialogue's more bizarre features within a comprehensible picture of Plato's development, finding in it significant steps in his transformation of the Socratic quest. Such an edition was undoubtedly needed: it is, so to speak, lively, imaginative and very well done.

Andrew Barker

Andrew Barker is lecturer in philosophy at the University of Warwick.

Coming to French terms

Malebranche and British Philosophy by Charles J. McCracken
Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press, £25.00
ISBN 0 19 624664 1
Hume's Sentiments: their Clerical and French context by Peter Jones
Edinburgh University Press, £17.50
ISBN 0 85224 443 6

Contemporary British philosophers are sometimes accused of ignoring their continental counterparts. Although the charge is overstated it is true that the impact of French philosophy in this century has not been marked. No such verdict could, however, be passed on the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Both Locke and Hume, the two most important British philosophers of the period, lived in France for several years and absorbed its culture.

These two books show that Locke and Hume were not the only thinkers to be so influenced. Charles McCracken demonstrates the breadth and profundity of Nicolas Malebranche's impact on British philosophy, while in a partially complementary work Peter Jones looks to some of the French sources for Hume's thought, and in so doing draws attention to areas of Hume which have not always received their due recognition.

Nicolas Malebranche is not much read in Britain today; indeed, until recently there was no modern translation of his greatest work *The Search after Truth*, which appeared first in English in 1694. That Malebranche was much admired in England is supported by Addison's report from Paris in 1700 that he had visited the French philosopher "who has a particular esteem for the English nation, where I believe he has more admirers than in his own". These included James II who visited him shortly after being deposed — though with what comfort remains unknown.

After an introductory chapter which places him in his context McCracken devotes about one hundred pages to Malebranche's major arguments on the sources and remedies of error. Malebranche gives central place to the senses as related primarily to natural judgments: we shall not be deceived if we use our senses only as sources for practical knowledge, for their main purpose is to alert us to our bodily needs. But an intellectual analysis reveals that we do not in fact sense material things and knowledge of the essence of both body and mind is beyond us.

In his account of knowledge we reach Malebranche's celebrated, not to say notorious, claim that all things are in God, so that in perception we are seeing those things in God. Malebranche does not claim to know how this is possible, but only that it must be so and it arises from his absolute commitment to God as the sole causal agent. This, together with his commitment to the world of material things, implies his version of Occasionalism: that no events in the physical world are causally related. There can only be one true cause of things and that is the will of God. In this case, there is a necessary connection between one event and another, for whatever God wills must occur.

Briefly presented Malebranche's ideas no doubt appear implausible. But they have intellectual strength which met major difficulties in Cartesian philosophy especially. Malebranche was rightly regarded as a force to be reckoned with; albeit a waning force as the philosophy of Locke and Newton grabbed into the ascendant. Locke himself, sensing this, did not bother to publish his critique of Malebranche, even though the British Malebranchean, John Norris, was soon to publish his much underrated (because unread) *Theory of the Ideal World*, and Thomas Taylor both translated Malebranche and published (in the year of Locke's death) a Malebranchean theology of his own. Another English Malebran-

chean was Arthur Collier: in his *Clavis Universalis* he argued for what McCracken fairly calls a Malebranchean immaterialism.

There were, however, bigger names yet, especially Berkeley and Hume, whose thought cannot properly be appreciated without understanding their relations to Malebranche. While Berkeley's debts have long been recognized the extent of Hume's are not so well appreciated. As an illustration we may note that it was Malebranche who first emphasized that causation is essentially a necessary connexion and that we know of no such connexions between natural objects. In two final chapters we are shown the debts of Thomas Reid and colonial America to Malebranche's thought.

That Hume owes much to French thinkers has long been accepted. Hume told us as much himself. But he is often depicted as one motivated by the model of knowledge found in Newton's *Principia*. Peter Jones does much to redress this balance. Hume was doubtfully equipped to follow the major argument of the *Principia* (though he undoubtedly did learn from the non-mathematical parts) and we misunderstand his position unless we recognize the connexions between Cleronian naturalism and Hume's attitudes towards religion, sentiment, the general emphasis on moderation, and the social dimension of man. The wider connexions between Hume and French culture — wider than his debts to Malebranche, that is — are clearly demonstrated, for example in the links between Hume's aesthetic theory and the writings of the Abbé J.-B. Dubos. In total we are offered a good deal of the story of the origins of Hume's secular philosophy, which will be complemented by a forthcoming volume by Jones on the relationship between Bayle and Hume.

G. A. J. Rogers

Dr Rogers is senior lecturer in philosophy at the University of Keele.

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Ancient thinkers

Plato by R. M. Hare
Oxford University Press, £6.95 and £1.50
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Oxford University Press, £6.95 and £1.50
ISBN 0 19 287582 5 and 287581 7
A History of Philosophy, volume one: Antiquity and the Middle Ages by Anders Wedberg
Oxford University Press, £10.50 and £3.95
ISBN 0 19 824639 0 and 824691 9

Both these "Past Masters" volumes are admirable introductions to their subjects, as well as having much to offer to those already conversant with the works of Plato and Aristotle.

Professor Hare gives a useful account of both the historical and the conceptual background to Plato's thought. He rightly emphasizes the strong moral and political motivation of his philosophy; and, mindful of the linguistic and logical constraints within which Plato was writing, he urges us "sometimes to allow him to be unclear". He points to the usual combination in Plato of the "dialectical" of the personal philosophy and the "sage" student of mathematics, logic, and language, partly attributing his mistake of supposing that there must be an entity corresponding to every meaningful word to his capacity for vivid mental imagery. But he rebuts the charge that the Socratic search for definitions undermines such knowledge as is implicit in ordinary usage by emphasizing the antiphraseological nature of the accusation; and although one would scarcely expect a philosopher who has frequently endorsed "Hume's Law" to accept Plato's view of the Form of the Good as the supreme object of study, he gives a plausible explanation of how Plato — at least if we take the forms as perfect paradigms — comes to hold this opinion and is later at pains to point out how difficult the modern liberal might find it to controvert the implausible authoritarianism of the *Republic*. It is clearly difficult in a work of such brevity to convey the flavour of the dialogue-form; but Hare does bring out with considerable clarity the way in which Plato approaches his central concerns; and he discusses them with the critical insight one would expect of a leading moral philosopher.

Aristotle, if less readable than Plato, can be more illuminatingly quoted in works as brief as these; and Jonathan Barnes admirably exploits this advantage in a study which brings his usual infectious enthusiasm as well as an enviable grasp of the Aristotelian corpus. In brief but masterly essays he surveys the various aspects of Aristotle's thought; discussing, for instance, the main patterns of argument and explanation propounded in the *Prior* and *Posterior Analytics* with easy lucidity and considerable critical acumen. Barnes brings out well the tension in Aristotle between the Platonic influence which he never shook off and the more amorphous approach which was the most striking expression of his reaction against it. He robustly defends Aristotle against the charge of ignoring factual evidence, but admits the weakness of a scientific approach which lacked techniques of accurate measurement.

Against the view that Aristotle "childishly" makes the natural world a stage on which plans and purposes are acted out, Barnes argues that for Aristotle final causes are not ubiquitous. The "bible to the liver" is a "religion" and is not for the sake of anything; and that his teleological account anyway is perfectly respectable explanations in terms of function. He does not, however, really explain how we are to interpret Aristotle's occasional references to Nature as "the intelligent artificer of the natural world", nor does he say anything to resolve my continual puzzlement as to how Aristotle relates the purpose which he sees exhibited in the natural world to the love of the heavenly bodies for the Unmoved Mover. But this is a quite admirable and very lively study of a difficult thinker.

Professor Wedberg's own posthumously published translation of the first volume of his *History of Philosophy* eschews a narrative approach to the thought of antiquity or any attempt to study the ancient philosophers "as human beings". Six chapters dealing with the various topics of ancient philosophy are followed by two on medieval philosophy. Undeniably there are advantages in the topic-by-topic approach which Wedberg favours, especially in securing clearer delineation of the connexions between the ideas of different philosophers in specific areas; and there are advantages too in his practice of laying bare in stark proposition

to listen to Brahms's First. Being unaccustomed with the work, I have no such desire. Such "grounding reasons" will produce desire when detected, and can then become reasons for which someone acts. But their status as reasons is never, Bond argues, dependent on anyone's desires.

Bond's defence of these, and connected claims, contains much truth, but is often dull and difficult reading. Recalling us to common sense is, in his hands, a relentlessly academic enterprise, involving painstaking examination of much recent literature. His careful, if convoluted, case for at least some desire-independent values will need to be met by their professional philosophical opponents.

Reason and Value by E. J. Bond
Cambridge University Press, £17.50 and £5.50
ISBN 0 521 24571 0 and 27079 0

"It would help him." "It would be a lie." Such moral considerations, we ordinarily believe, can provide reasons for or against certain proposed courses of action. And we do not take their status as reasons to be undermined if the addressee truthfully retorts that he has no desire to help others or to avoid lies. It seems, moreover, part of the very meaning of "reason" that if a consideration is a reason for acting then awareness of that consideration can motivate an agent.

A famous trilemma results, though; if we add to these two thoughts, Hume's doctrine, that no consideration can motivate someone unless it relates the recommended action in an appropriate way — most notably as a means — to something which he desires. Clinging to Hume, then, many philosophers have rejected one or other of our opening platitudes. In this book E. J. Bond seeks to recall us to common sense and ancient wisdom on the topics of reason, value and their inter-relationships. In general and not merely in the above special case of what Bond quaintly calls "moral value". The trilemma is generalizable. As Bond correctly claims, it is not merely when morality is at play that there is an ordinarily believe that there is a question as to what ends or values to pursue, one which is not reducible to the question of how best to satisfy our given desires.

The natural line for the defender, of common sense on these topics is, surely, to deny the Humean doctrine. As Bond himself notes, there is a perfectly ordinary sense of "want" in which many of the things we do for a reason we do not want to do. Bond, though, firmly agrees with Hume here and claims that there is a broader notion of want or desire — that of "motivational propensities" — in which acting for a reason requires a real want or desire on the part of the agent. Bond's grounds for this claim neatly confirm the diagnosis that the whole Humean picture of action rests on a mechanics-inspired pseudo-psychology: we need some "force" or "energy" to "move" us to act.

Bond seeks to preserve common sense by distinguishing two notions of reason: the reasons for which someone acts — tied, as Hume claimed, to desire; the reasons someone has for doing something; tied, Bond argues, to value. A reason can exist for my hearing Brahms's First Symphony — for example, that I would enjoy it — but this reason does not derive from any desire of mine

to listen to Brahms's First. Being unaccustomed with the work, I have no such desire. Such "grounding reasons" will produce desire when detected, and can then become reasons for which someone acts. But their status as reasons is never, Bond argues, dependent on anyone's desires.

Bond's defence of these, and connected claims, contains much truth, but is often dull and difficult reading. Recalling us to common sense is, in his hands, a relentlessly academic enterprise, involving painstaking examination of much recent literature. His careful, if convoluted, case for at least some desire-independent values will need to be met by their professional philosophical opponents.

Reason and Value by E. J. Bond
Cambridge University Press, £17.50 and £5.50
ISBN 0 521 24571 0 and 27079 0

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tion of all aspects of man's experience. In recent work by British philosophers, Richard Swinburne accords a high probability to God's existence, John Mackie a low probability, and Anthony Kenny a slightly higher probability to God's non-existence than to the probability of his existence.

There are indications that Nielsen wrote his book a decade or so ago, leaving one to conjecture why its publication has been delayed until now. Had it appeared then it would have made a timely and valuable contribution to the philosophical debate concerning the validity of the Wittgensteinian approach to religion. Appearing now it can hardly be said to make an original contribution. What it provides is a careful and thorough statement of Wittgensteinian Fideism, which it subjects to trenchant criticism, now and again enlivened with a dash of rhetoric. Although Nielsen dubs D. Z. Phillips the arch-Wittgensteinian Fideist, he does not in fact clinically dissect the weaknesses in Phillips's voluminous writings as Mackie does in *The Miracle of Theism*. Rather Nielsen concentrates on the work of other neo-Wittgensteinians, in particular that of Peter Winch. Winch has written less on religion than Phillips, but, arguably, his defence of religious language is more subtle and less easily disposed of by the kind of criticism that Mackie makes of Phillips, namely that the latter's defence of religion is either a form of atheism or a theism unsupported by sound arguments. In a celebrated article "Understanding a Primitive Society" Winch argued that it is not possible to assess the magical beliefs and practices of the Azande as false and unreal when judged by the criteria of truth and reality used in western science. The criteria of reality and intelligibility are internal to the Azande magical and religious belief system. Azande magic and western science are two autonomous belief systems: one cannot be used to judge the validity of the other. Against this view Nielsen makes many telling and valid criticisms without quite driving home the message that Winch's position seems to espouse a kind of "cultural solipsism" which, like solipsism itself, is logically irrefutable.

Nielsen's book is unsuccessful as an "introduction" to the philosophy of religion, simply because so many of the topics one would expect to find discussed in such a book do not appear at all — the problem of evil, for example, or immortality, or the concept of religious experience. Such is D. Z. Phillips's admiration for his former teacher, Rush Rhees, that he has edited collections of philosophical essays by otherwise little known philosophers who were either Rhees's teachers or are admired by him. A recent edited collection of the work of the Australian philosopher, John Anderson, on education is a case in point. Now come extracts from a philosophical novel written in dialogue form by a German philosopher, otherwise probably known only to experts in early nineteenth-century German writings. The volume includes an interesting but tantalizingly brief introduction to the life and work of Fries by Rhees himself. In a one-page preface the editor writes of the extracts here published as "having a major contribution to make to issues concerning relations between religion and morality, and, more importantly, to questions concerning how ideas of the reality and will of God enter human life". Apart from the fact that some of Fries's remarks echo familiar themes in Wittgensteinian Fideism, it is difficult to accept the claim that this is a major contribution to the philosophy of religion.

T. A. Roberts

T. A. Roberts is professor of philosophy at University College, Aberystwyth.

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BOOKS

PHILOSOPHY

Search for essences

The Character of Mind
by Colin McGinn
Oxford University Press, £8.95 and £3.95
ISBN 0 19 219171 3 and 289159 6

In this introduction to the philosophy of mind, McGinn's approach to his subject is robustly traditional, not to say old-fashioned. It harks back to such works as Broad's *The Mind and its Place in Nature* (although it is only about one-fifth the length of that work) rather than to more recent styles of philosophizing about mind (for example, those which emphasize the continuity between empirical and philosophical approaches). The philosopher is depicted as searching for essences, for logically necessary and sufficient conditions for various phenomena.

Although McGinn does this by investigating concepts, we are told that "mental concepts are more the method of enquiry than its object". Exactly what a concept is, and how one investigates it, is left unclear. On the one hand, he says that it is misleading to say that the subject-matter of philosophy is words; on the other, we are told that the identity of a concept is wholly determined by the meaning of the phrase that expresses it. It is to any case difficult to make sense of McGinn's appeal to what "intuition" tells us, unless this is an appeal to our grasp of the truth conditions (and hence presumably the meaning) of sentences describing alleged facts.

After a useful preliminary explanation of what the subject is and by what methods it can be approached, the author devotes his six chapters to discussions of the mind/body problem (in which he finds no currently available theory to be satisfactory); of our knowledge of the external world, of our experiences, and of our selves; of the relations between thought and language; of agency; and finally of the self.

Besides the methodology of the book, I also have doubts about its contents. In chapter two, for example, McGinn rejects the dualist view that a person is composed of a physical body and a non-physical mind, on the familiar ground that the concept of a non-physical mind is incoherent. Yet the final chapter treats the self as a Cartesian mental substance, that is to say, it identifies the self as one of those non-physical entities the concept of which had earlier been declared incoherent.

This makes it all the more surprising that McGinn should say of this incoherent concept that it is "the native concept we are prone to operate with". It also makes it surprising that McGinn should say the onus of proof is on the opponent of the concept to show what is wrong with it, for all the world as if he had not himself told us earlier that "good sense" requires us to reject the concept. It is true that there is no contradiction between the two chapters, since in discussing the self, McGinn admits that the concept may not be coherent, and that even if it is coherent, it may not apply to anything. There is, however, a certain dissonance between the two chapters in that the second silently ignores the claims already put forward in the first.

McGinn tells us in his preface that the book is intended as an introduction for "the general reader and the beginning student". There are, however, two reasons for thinking that neither of these two categories of reader will be the main beneficiaries of the book. The first is that the philosophy of mind, the book has no claims to comprehensiveness, even within the field that it covers. In the mind/body chapter, for example, there is no discussion of behaviourism or of post-Wittgensteinian critical theories, nor does the chapter on action have any discussion of free will. And outside the restricted do-

main within which McGinn operates, there remain important areas of the subject which are left untouched. There is nothing, for example, on emotion or memory or imagination. The second reason for doubting whether the book can succeed in its stated aim is the dense argumentation and highly compressed presentation of material. The chapter on mind and body, for example, is a lightning survey of varieties of materialism and dualism which speeds through such topics as the type/token distinction, supervenience, universals and particulars, panpsychism and functionalism, all in a mere 21 pages. It is not that the issues are too skimpy dealt with to make the discussion worthwhile - far from it. It is rather that the style is so concise that only one who comes to the text with a fair degree of background knowledge is likely to appreciate what is being said and why.

It would be a mistake, however, to think that the book's inappropriateness as an introduction is its overall failure. In spite of the reservations mentioned above, the book is an impressive piece of work - tough, elegant, ingenious, argumentative and controversial.

Nicholas Everitt

Nicholas Everitt is lecturer in philosophy at the University of East Anglia.

Thought content

The Varieties of Reference
by Gareth Evans
Oxford University Press, £15.00 and £5.95
ISBN 0 19 824685 4 and 824686 2

When he died in 1980, at the age of 34, Gareth Evans was working on an eagerly awaited book on reference. The drafts and notes that he left have now been edited by John McDowell into a coherent and polished text. The result is an impressive treatment of some central problems about the ways in which our thoughts and statements are related to the world.

Much recent work on reference addresses itself primarily to questions about language: it discusses, for example, the proper semantic treatment of singular terms such as proper names, or the criteria for determining what a speaker is referring to when he uses a name. Evans, by contrast, insists that we need first to understand how singular thoughts relate to their objects, if we are to reach an adequate account of the linguistic devices used to express such thoughts. And so the long central part of his book is devoted to an investigation into the variety of singular thoughts. The argument here is extremely intricate; but one main conclusion is clear and challenging.

Suppose, sitting on the train, I have the thought that *that girl* is pretty. Here I identify in thought a particular girl - say the one sitting opposite me - and think of her that she is pretty. And it is initially tempting to take it that the content of my singular thought is in part fixed by fixing who it is I am thinking about. But on further reflection this seems quite wrong. For surely, I could still have been thinking exactly the same thought-content as I am, thinking now had there been some different, but qualitatively similar girl opposite me (for example, my fellow traveller's twin). In other words, I could have been thinking a thought with the same intrinsic content, even if there had been a change in the object the thought is about. Indeed, I could surely still have been thinking the same thought had I suddenly been hallucinating the girl. The content of my thought can thus hardly depend on who it is actually about, or else we would have to say in the hallucinatory case that it has no determinate content - and this is absurd, given that my thought-content remains the same whether I am hallucinating the girl or really seeing her.

This line of argument is ultimately Russellian, and, when pressed, leads to a conception of thought as being (in nearly all cases) intrinsically compounded, Dr Colajacco suggests, of elements deriving from Hobbes, Burke and Bentham.

In 1839, however, Stephen found little to quarrel with in Mill's essay *On Liberty*. "We know of nothing in English literature since the *Arctostaphylos* more stirring" was his view of Mill's defence of free discussion. A decade later however he was to challenge both Mill's general idea of liberty and his advocacy of free discussion.

In matters of literary criticism Stephen was impressed by realism but stern on vice. *Madame Bovary* was not, he thought, a work to be recommended, its principal character being defective in point of moral calculation ("The notion of duty or responsibility never seems to cross her mind"). Dickens was subversive and sentimental. Rousseau's professed love of mankind prompted Stephen to suggest that he keep it to himself and not dab with others with it.

In 1869 Stephen was elected Legal Member of the Viceroy's Council in India, a post earlier held by Macaulay and Henry Maine. He consolidated and amended large sections of the law in force in India and added to Macaulay's penal code. His experience of the governing of India made a permanent mark and it was largely that experience that provoked the attacks on Mill's *Liberty* written on his return to England for the *Pall Mall Gazette* and later published as *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity*.

Stephen argued that Mill's essay undervalued the role of law in preserving liberty and that Mill's principle of forbidding the restriction of individual freedom except for the purpose of preventing harm to others undervalued religion and morality and disregarded the right of society to coerce or tax unwilling cultural minorities for positive purposes not embraced by self-protection (such as keeping up the British Museum). Mill also, he thought, was too optimistic about free discussion. Most people were selfish, frivolous and commonplace and discussion was not likely to move them. Parliamentary government was conducted by the force of numbers not argument, and few great changes had been carried through as the result of rational persuasion. Free discussion could not have governed India. That country could not be ruled except on the principle that native religions were false.

None of this is entirely fair to Mill's argument. Stephen might have added that England was governed on the principle that beliefs in the propriety of theft and murder were false. But Mill did not deny that. Governments on his principles are allowed to act on their convictions and to punish malefactors together with those who abet and incite the commission of crimes, so long as they leave free those who merely advocate wicked or criminal actions. Much of Stephen's argument amounts to saying (what Mill did deny) that some forms of incitement speech may cause disorder and be properly punished.

Some of Stephen's criticism of enthusiasm for mere negative or absolute liberty seems also misconceived. Somewhat he seems to confuse the definition of liberty as absence of restraint with a policy of removing all restraint, or with advocacy of moral laissez-faire. Nothing in fact illustrates better the cross purposes that progressives and conservatives may fall into in squabbling about liberty. Stephen, an undoubted conservative, when denouncing Mill's egalitarian tendencies complains that they endanger liberty and freedom of individual choice. When faced with Mill's prescriptions for free choice in moral or religious matters, however, he cries down liberty and praises authority and compulsion.

Stephen's political philosophy, though bold and enjoyable to read (brutal, vain and pompous, Mill said) is not what his reputation rests on and it is hard to agree that in this field he was "the most underrated thinker of his age". His true monuments are his writing on the history of English criminal law and his efforts, not entirely fruitless, to reduce it to a more rational codified order.

Geoffrey Marshall

Geoffrey Marshall is a fellow of Queen's College, Oxford.

Mill as his grist

James Fitzjames Stephen and the Crisis of Victorian Thought
by James A. Colajacco
Macmillan, £20.00
ISBN 0 333 28731 2

James Colajacco's useful, straightforward account of Sir James Fitzjames Stephen's work and thought presents his collision with John Stuart Mill as one between two schools of liberal philosophy. Stephen's liberalism was certainly different from that of Mill, Green, Gladstone or Hobbes. "The highest function which the general mass of mankind could ever be fitted to perform," he wrote in 1862, "would be that of recognizing the moral and intellectual superiority of the few". This liberalism, it is what is at the heart of a classical and refined sort

of elements deriving from Hobbes, Burke and Bentham.

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LECTURER which have been established under the national scheme to encourage the appointment of younger members of the academic staff (the "new blood" scheme). Applicants should normally be under the age of 35 years. Each post is available from 1st October, 1983 or at a later date to be arranged. The salaries will be within the range £6,375-£13,505 per annum.

CHEMISTRY: Applicants should have carried out research in areas related to inorganic chemistry and preference will be given to those with research interests in preparative organometallic chemistry. Closing date for applications: 18th May (ref. 4463)

APPLIED MATHEMATICS: Preference will be given to applicants with an interest in any aspect of wave motions. Closing date for applications: 8th May (ref. 4283)

PHYSICS (RADIO-ASTRONOMY): The appointee will be expected to undertake radio-physical research based on the Martin Interferometer and other facilities at Jodrell Bank. Closing date for applications: 18th May (ref. 5163)

PHYSICS: The field of research is experimental high energy physics. The appointee will join the High Energy Group which is engaged in experiments of PETRA in Hamburg and at CERN. Closing date for applications: 11th May (ref. 5293)

IMMUNOLOGY: Applicants should have proven ability in molecular aspects of immunology. The department is situated in the Medical School, where excellent laboratory and animal facilities are available, and collaboration with workers at the Paterson Laboratories (Christie Hospital) is encouraged. Closing date for applications: 27th May (ref. 4383)

GEOLOGY: Applicants should have an interest in metamorphic petrology. Closing date for applications: 18th May (ref. 5383)

ISLAMIC HISTORY: Applicants should have an interest in the post-1800 history of the Middle East and the Islamic world. Closing date for applications: 11th May (ref. 5463)

Particulars and application forms (returnable by the date stated above) from The Registrar, The University, Manchester M13 9PL. Please quote appropriate reference.

LEICESTER UNIVERSITY

Under the UGC New Blood Scheme the University of Leicester has been awarded funds for Lectureships, tenable from 1st October 1983, in the following fields:

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Biological Chemistry

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

1. Condensed matter physics

2. X-ray Astronomy

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

Structure of the human genome with particular reference to the molecular basis of inherited disorders.

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Trans-national aspects of social welfare law

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Registrar, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH. Detailed advertisements are appearing in the appropriate specialist journals.

Appointments

Universities
Fellowships
Research and Studentships
Polytechnics
Colleges of Higher Education
Colleges with Teacher Education
Colleges and Institutes of Technology

Technical Colleges
Colleges of Further Education
Colleges and Departments of Art Administration
Overseas Adult Education
Librarians
General Vacancies
Industry and Commerce

Other classifications

Exhibitions
Awards
Conferences and Seminars
Courses

Personal
For Sale and Wanted
Holidays and Accommodation

UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE

Applications are invited for the following posts:

PROFESSOR OF HISTOPATHOLOGY: DEPARTMENT OF HISTOPATHOLOGY
Applicants must have MRCPath or equivalent qualification in Histopathology and Morbid Anatomy. The successful candidate will be expected to teach these subjects to medical students and to carry out service work and research. He/she will also be involved in postgraduate training in Pathology.

PROFESSOR OF ANAESTHETICS: DEPARTMENT OF ANAESTHETICS
Candidates must hold the FFARCS or equivalent higher qualification in Anaesthesia. The post will involve teaching anaesthesia to students and junior doctors. It will also involve intensive care and research commitments.

LECTURERSHIP/SENIOR LECTURERSHIP: DEPARTMENT OF HISTOPATHOLOGY (2 posts)
Applicants must have MRCPath or equivalent qualification in Histopathology and Morbid Anatomy. The successful candidates will be expected to teach these subjects to medical students and to carry out service work and research. He/she will also be involved in postgraduate training in Pathology.

LECTURERSHIP/SENIOR LECTURERSHIP: DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM STUDIES (Physics Education)
This post is being funded by the Nuffield Foundation for one year. There are, however, possibilities of extending the funding for another year. Applicants must have Master's degree in Physics education and preferably must have taught the subject successfully at undergraduate level. Teacher training experience and ability to design undergraduate physics courses is an advantage.

LECTURERSHIP/SENIOR LECTURERSHIP: DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY (Available 1.1.84)
In addition to teaching, the post calls for someone who can run and maintain the isotope laboratory and a holder of a Ph.D. is essential.

CHIEF CHEMIST: INSTITUTE OF MINING RESEARCH
Candidates should be qualified with BSc (Honours) chemistry and MSc analytical chemistry, or equivalent with minimum of five years experience in geological and metallurgical materials. Modern laboratory equipment includes two Varian Technic A.A., Leco C and B with staff of seven, modern XRF analyser.

SALARY SCALES: (Non-Medical)
Lecturer Grade 5: £20,016 x 510 - 9,504 x 552 - £13,428
Lecturer Grade 6: £21,850 x 530 - 10,124 x 564 - £15,254
Senior Lecturer: £23,000 x 480 - £15,940
Professor: £26,400 x 534 - 20,876 x 540 - £23,166

(Medical)
Assistant Lecturer: £21,064 x 432 - £13,392
Lecturer Grade 1: £21,488 x 432 - 16,120 x 468 - 15,568 x 480 - £17,520
Lecturer Grade 2: £21,798 x 440 - £19,208
Senior Lecturer: £23,000 x 480 - £22,600 x 504 - £23,004
Professor: £26,400 x 534 - 20,876 x 540 - £23,166

OTHER
Chief Chemist: Same scales as Non-medical Lecturers.

Appointments on above scales according to qualifications and experience. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT: Both permanent and short-term contracts are offered. Persons who are not Zimbabwean citizens may be appointed only on a short-term contract basis with an initial contract period of two years. Short-term contracts may, in exceptional cases, be extended.

Six copies of Applications giving full personal particulars (including full name, place and date of birth, etc.) qualifications, employment and experience, present salary, date of availability, telephone number and names and addresses of three referees should be addressed to the Director, Appointments and Personnel, University of Zimbabwe, P.O. Box MP 167, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe (Telex: 4-182 ZWI), from whom further particulars for the above posts are available.

Applicants should send an additional copy of their applications to the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Acup), 33 Orono Square, London W10 0PF, from whom further particulars are also available.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 16th May, 1983.

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH

WELSH PLANT BREEDING STATION

Applications are invited for the post of:

DIRECTOR

of the Welsh Plant Breeding Station, Aberystwyth which is a research department of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth receiving grant aid from the Agricultural Research Council. The appointment, which will take effect from 1st January, 1984, is currently graded as Deputy Chief Scientific Officer in the Agricultural Research Service with a corresponding salary of £18,000 rising to £22,001 by two annual increments. There is a non-subsidised pension scheme but made members of the fund contribute 14% per cent towards widow's pension benefits. The Director will be a Professor of the University of Wales in the Department of Agricultural Botany of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Further particulars can be obtained from The Registrar (Burling Office), The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, King Street, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, (Tel: 0970 8177, Ext. 207) by whom applications (12 copies) together with names and addresses of three referees, should be received not later than 16th May, 1983. Applicants from overseas must submit one application by airmail.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

Universities continued

University of Edinburgh
Department of Commerce
2 LECTURERS
2 RESEARCH ASSOCIATES (3 years)
1 COMPUTING OFFICER (1 year)

Applications are invited for the above positions in the Department of Commerce. The successful candidates will be expected to teach and supervise students. The salary for the Lecturers will be £11,931-£13,280 per annum. The salary for the Research Associates will be £5,855-£11,022 per annum. The salary for the Computing Officer will be £5,855-£11,022 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of Commerce, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH8 9JY.

University of Liverpool
LECTURERS IN PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Physics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students. The salary for the Lecturer will be £11,931-£13,280 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of Physics, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 3GB.

University of Exeter
Department of Mathematics
LECTURER IN POLYMER PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Polymer Physics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students. The salary for the Lecturer will be £11,931-£13,280 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of Mathematics, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4JF.

University of Bradford
LECTURESHIP IN CONTROL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Control Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students. The salary for the Lecturer will be £11,931-£13,280 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of Engineering, University of Bradford, Bradford BD9 4JT.

Polytechnics

The Polytechnic of North London

PRINCIPAL LECTURER
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum
SENIOR LECTURER
£10,173-£11,984 (bar) - £12,816 per annum
LECTURER II
£8,655-£11,022 per annum

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer Grade II in English

Applications are invited for the post of Senior Lecturer/Lecturer Grade II in English. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise students. The salary for the Senior Lecturer/Lecturer Grade II in English will be £11,931-£13,280 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of English, The Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Road, London N7 8DB.

NORTH STAFFS POLY

PRINCIPAL LECTURER
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum
SENIOR LECTURER
£10,173-£11,984 (bar) - £12,816 per annum
LECTURER II
£8,655-£11,022 per annum

ULSTER POLYTECHNIC

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN FINE ART - SCULPTURE
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum
SENIOR LECTURER
£10,173-£11,984 (bar) - £12,816 per annum
LECTURER II
£8,655-£11,022 per annum

oxford polytechnic

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER IN ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum
LECTURER II
£8,655-£11,022 per annum

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Lancaster

LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Bath

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Sheffield

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Keele

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Hull

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of York

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Lincoln

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Northumbria

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Salford

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Walsley

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Exeter

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Leicester

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Strathclyde

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of York

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
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University of Hull

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University of Walsley

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University of York

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Hull

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Birmingham

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Leicester

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
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University of Strathclyde

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University of Northumbria

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University of Walsley

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University of York

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University of Hull

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Manchester

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Leicester

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Strathclyde

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
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University of York

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£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Hull

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University of York

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£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

University of Hull

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
£11,931-£13,280 (bar) - £15,018 per annum

Technical Colleges

KEIGHLEY
TECHNICAL
COLLEGEAPPOINTMENT
OF PRINCIPAL

Applications are invited for the above post to succeed Mr. J. Longdon O.B.E. who is retiring at the end of the Summer term 1983. The college is in Group 5 (salary range, currently £18,857 to £19,811), is situated in the centre of Keighley and is organised into five departments:

- Business & Management Studies.
- Community Education and Staff Development.
- Construction Industries.
- Engineering.
- General Education, Science and Computing.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Keighley Technical College, Cavendish Street, Keighley, BD21 3DF. Completed forms to be returned by 6th May 1983.

City of Bradford Metropolitan Council

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from candidates of all ages, race, sex, colour, disability, unless otherwise stated.

Colleges of Higher Education

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COLLEGE OF
HIGHER EDUCATION
Queen Alexandra Road, High Wycombe,
Bucks.SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
STUDIES AND LANGUAGES

Applications are invited for the following posts, duties to commence on 1st September 1983.

Lecturer I in Business Studies to contribute to the development of BSC Higher National courses.
Lecturer II in Management and Business Studies to contribute to a range of courses at undergraduate, postgraduate and post experience levels. Candidates should be able to contribute to courses in Accountancy and/or Quantitative Methods.

Senior Lecturer in Management Studies to contribute to postgraduate and post experience management courses. Preference will be given to candidates with an interest in the Behavioural Aspects of Management.

For all posts candidates should possess a degree and/or professional qualifications together with appropriate industrial/commercial experience.

Salary Scales:
Lecturer I £5,365-£9,287
Lecturer II £5,855-£11,022
Senior Lecturer £10,173-£11,964

Application forms and further particulars from the Assistant Director to whom completed forms should be returned as quickly as possible. (SAE).

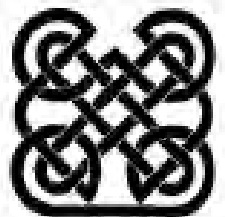
Head of Department
of Accountancy
and Business
Grade VI £16,098-£17,721
(Scale under review)

required for September 1984 for this department will be formed by the amalgamation of the Department of Accountancy and of Business Studies and Law, which have been both existing. Full-time part-time and sandwich courses currently include ACCA (Final), I.C.M.A. (Prof.), BSC, I.N.T.A.C. and Banking Diploma.

For further information and application forms see: SAE in The Vice Principal, Slough College of Higher Education, Wellington Drive, Slough MK3 1TG. Completed forms must be returned by 28 April 1983.

Berkshire is an equal opportunities employer.

Slough College

West Glamorgan
Institute of
Higher Education

Principal: Gerald Stockdale
MED, MSc, PhD, CEng, MIMinE

Applications are invited for the following appointments to commence September 1983:

Dean of Faculty of Information
Studies
(Grade V)

A well qualified and experienced graduate is required, with a background in one of the following areas - Business/Accountancy/Computing Studies.

This is a newly created Faculty; the successful applicant will be responsible for providing sound academic leadership. Courses to be provided by the Faculty include: CNAIA; University of Wales; and BTEC validated ones and experience at this level is essential.

Dean of Faculty of Electronic
Engineering
(Grade V)

A well qualified and experienced graduate with a background in micro-electronics is required to head this newly created Faculty. Courses provided include CNAIA research degrees, HD in Micro-Electronics with options in Opto-Electronics, CADMAT. The Faculty is also responsible for co-ordinating the research and academic work of the Information Technology Centre at Neath.

Head of School of Quantitative
Studies
(Principal Lecturer)

A specialist is required in the area of Operations Research/Model Building/Business Statistics. Applicants must be well qualified and have successful teaching experience at honours degree level; research experience highly desirable.

Head of School of Computing
Studies
(Principal Lecturer)

A specialist in Computing Studies is required. Applicants must be well qualified and have experience of teaching at honours degree level, as well as HND. WGHIE has a Prime 550 with over 60 terminals: co-ordinated by a Director of Computer Unit; the successful applicant would be required to have a good knowledge of this system.

Readership in Business with
Special Reference to
Accountancy
(Principal Lecturer)

Applicants must have substantial experience of successful supervision to first submission of higher degree candidates in the area of Business Studies. Applications are especially invited from the University sector for this appointment, which is intended to develop and co-ordinate research interests in the Faculty of Information Studies and of Business Administration.

Head of School of Mechanical
and Manufacturing Engineering
(Principal Lecturer)

This appointment is within the Faculty of Technology. Applicants must be well qualified graduates in mechanical engineering with good teaching/industrial/research experience. The Faculty has recently been approved to provide a T.E.D. in Mechanical Engineering; the successful applicant will be closely involved in this course.

Dean of Faculty (Grade V) £11,285-£12,581 (bar) - £14,288

It is hoped the above appointments will commence September 1983. In each case it is essential candidates are committed to giving assistance to and being involved with the regeneration of industry and commerce in the South West Wales region. The County of West Glamorgan is a very attractive part of the country in which to work and live; the Gower Peninsula was the first area in the UK to be designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Further details and application forms from: The Principal, West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Townhill Road, Swansea SA2 0UT, SAE please. Closing date for applications: Friday 6th May, 1983.

South Glamorgan County Council
SOUTH GLAMORGAN INSTITUTE OF
HIGHER EDUCATION (CARDIFF)
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications are invited for the following appointments to commence September 1983:

SENIOR LECTURER - EDUCATION
The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision and delivery of the Education Department in the Faculty of Education, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cardiff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision and delivery of the Education Department in the Faculty of Education, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cardiff.

Salary Scale: £11,285-£12,581 (bar) - £14,288

LECTURER 2 - EDUCATION
The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision and delivery of the Education Department in the Faculty of Education, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cardiff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the provision and delivery of the Education Department in the Faculty of Education, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cardiff.

Salary Scale: £5,365-£9,287

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained by writing to: R. A. Fennell, Assistant Secretary, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Townhill Road, Swansea SA2 0UT, SAE please. Closing date for applications: Friday 13th May 1983.

The Governing Council seeks to appoint a

DIRECTOR

to take up post as soon as possible.

Humbarside College (currently Group 10) is a major regional and national institution of higher education with 3,000 full-time and sandwich students and 4,000 part-time students.

The college offers a diverse range of courses and its academic programme includes 23 degree and postgraduate courses, with a further 10 degree programmes planned to start this September, together with a wide range of diploma and professional courses.

Leadership of the college will therefore require a wide experience of public sector higher education and a detailed knowledge of the validation procedures of the C.N.A.A.

The three major sites of the college are in Hull, but the development of a fourth major location in Grimsby is under way.

Further details of the post may be obtained from: Mr. D. A. N. Robertson, Clerk to the Governing Council, Humbarside College of Higher Education, Cottingham Road, Hull HU6 7RT. Telephone: Hull (0482) 41451.

Letters of application with the names and addresses of two referees should reach the Clerk by 6th May 1983.

HUMBERSIDE COLLEGE
of Higher EducationTRINITY AND ALL SAINTS'
COLLEGE

Trinity and All Saints' College, an Independent Roman Catholic foundation affiliated with the University of Leeds, offers courses leading to BA (Collegiate), BSc (Collegiate) and BEd. Ordinary and Honours Degrees of the University.

Applications are invited for the post of:

HEAD OF STUDIES IN EDUCATION

The recent government re-organisation of teacher education had consolidated and extended the College's contribution in this sector. The College will continue to offer BEd. honours degrees for both primary and secondary ranges as well as Postgraduate Certificate courses to the secondary range. From September 1984, a Postgraduate Certificate for the primary range will be introduced.

As a full member of the recently established national Centre for Evaluation and Development in Teacher Education, the College is in the process of reviewing its approach to teacher education. New courses now being prepared will strengthen the link between initial and in-service education and training and emphasise the importance of school-based work and of a practice-based approach. All the College's BEd. degree courses will continue to incorporate the study of a single academic subject to honours degree level.

The College seeks to appoint a Head of Studies whose experience and interests will enable him or her to participate fully in these and other new developments.

Salary will be paid at the level of Burnham F.E. Head of Department Grade V for a suitably qualified and experienced candidate.

The post will take effect from September 1983. Further particulars of the post and application forms, which should be returned by Friday, 6th May, 1983, are available from:

The Registrar (27), Trinity and All Saints' College, Brownlie Lane, Leeds LS16 6HD.

Roehampton
Institute

Digby Stuart
Froebel
Southlands
Whitehills

Courses offered by the Roehampton Institute of Higher Education are in combined studies leading to university first and higher degrees. The Institute seeks to make the following appointment in the Department of Mathematics and Computing from 1 September 1983 or as soon as possible thereafter:

LECTURESHIP IN EDUCATIONAL
COMPUTING

The person appointed will be required to participate in the teaching of Educational Computing in in-service courses and professional (BEd and PGCE) courses. Applicants should have recent experience of the teaching of Computer Studies in schools, and interest in the use of computers across the curriculum in primary and secondary schools. Knowledge of the commercial application of computers would be an advantage. Salary (A.M.S. Scale) £6,855-£12,918 plus London Allowance £350 per annum.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained by writing to: R. A. Fennell, Assistant Secretary, Roehampton Institute of Higher Education, Richardson Road, Roehampton, London SW9 6SD. Closing date for applications: Friday 13th May 1983.

Colleges of Higher Education continued

Bulmershe College of Higher Education

Required for September 1983:

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER
IN MATHEMATICS

To join an active team of tutors who offer a wide range of courses in initial and in-service teacher training. Applications are sought from able mathematicians with a wide range of interests in teacher education. Recent school experience is essential for the post and experience of Primary schools would be an advantage. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to teach on a variety of courses and to take a leading role in developing new courses.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Deputy Principal, Bulmershe College of Higher Education, Woodlands Avenue, Easing, Reading RG6 1HJ. Tel: (0735) 663887, Ext. 224. Completed forms to be returned by 12th May, 1983.

Berkshire County Council is an equal opportunity employer.

Chaster College of
Higher Education

The following Lecturers are required from 1983 to assist in courses leading mainly to BA (Hons) and BSc (Hons) degrees in the Faculty of Education:

LECTURER IN
HISTORY

To help with a course on the history of education and to assist in the development of the History of Education course.

LECTURER II IN
PSYCHOLOGY

To help with courses in General Psychology and Educational Psychology. The successful applicant will have a strong interest in development and social psychology.

LECTURER II IN
RELIGIOUS
STUDIES

Applicants should be able to make a significant contribution to the study of Religion and Church History.

Salary scale on appropriate point of the scale £5,365-£9,287. Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Deputy Principal, Chaster College of Higher Education, Victoria Road, South Chesham, Bucks HP8 4JL. Tel: 0494 241 821.

Christ Church
College

of Higher Education
Canterbury

Required for the beginning of the Autumn Term 1983, Lecturer in Movement Studies.

Applications are invited from graduates with a degree in Physical Education or a related subject, who have experience in primary schools and who have an ability to teach courses in Movement Studies.

The college offers a BA (Hons) degree in Physical Education and a PGCE course in Physical Education.

Salary: Lecturer £11,285-£12,581 (bar) - £14,288

For further details write to: Mrs. Joan Long, Principal, Christ Church College, Canterbury, Kent. When applications should be sent as soon as possible and not later than 5 May.

Colleges of Technology

Hampshire

FARNBOROUGH COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

PRINCIPAL
LECTURERIN DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL,
PRODUCTION AND AERONAUTICAL
ENGINEERING

A good academic is required. Applicants must be at least honours graduates with a wide range of teaching and industrial experience.

Further details from The Staffing Officer, Farnborough College of Technology, Boundary Road, Farnborough, Hants, GU14 6SB (S.A.E. please). Closing date: 5th May, 1983.

Lothian Regional Council
NAPIER COLLEGE OF
COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPUTE PRINCIPAL

(Salary £22,014-£22,926
(under review))

Applications are invited for the post of Depute Principal at Napier College, Edinburgh. Napier College is a polytechnic-type institution and the largest higher education establishment in Scotland outside the University sector. The College offers a wide range of advanced courses at postgraduate, degree and diploma level, and currently has some 4,500 FTE students enrolled. The College is a Group 12 College in terms of the Scottish Teachers' Salaries Memorandum 1980.

Applicants should have suitable academic qualifications and considerable teaching and administrative experience in the field of higher education.

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from:

The Secretary,
Napier College,
Colinton Road,
Edinburgh, EH10 5DT.

To whom letters of application, including a Curriculum Vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent by 18th May, 1983.

Lothian Regional
Council

Napier College of
Commerce and
Technology

RESEARCH
ASSISTANT

Required to undertake research in the Department of Business Studies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the research project 'Corporate Planning and Management of Technological Change in the Banking Sector'. The successful candidate will be required to work on a collaborative basis with a senior research fellow.

The successful candidate will hold a degree in Business Studies and will be able to undertake research in the field of Business Studies.

Salary on Scale 25,873-27,781.

Application forms and further particulars from:

The Administrative Officer (Personnel), Napier College of Commerce and Technology, Colinton Road, Edinburgh, EH10 5DT.

Research
& StudentshipsThe University of
Leeds
School of Education
SSRC LINKED
STUDENTSIP

Applications are invited for an SSRC linked studentship in the School of Education, University of Leeds, for a period of 12 months commencing in October 1983. The successful candidate will be required to undertake research in the field of Education and to submit a thesis for submission to the University of Leeds.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from the School of Education, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, or from the SSRC, 1, Whitehall Court, London W1B 3AL.

University of Bristol
Department of Economic
and Social History
S.S.R.C. LINKED
STUDENTSIP

Applicants are invited to apply for an S.S.R.C. linked studentship in the Department of Economic and Social History, University of Bristol, for a period of 12 months commencing in October 1983. The successful candidate will be required to undertake research in the field of Economic and Social History and to submit a thesis for submission to the University of Bristol.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Department of Economic and Social History, University of Bristol, Bristol, or from the S.S.R.C., 1, Whitehall Court, London W1B 3AL.

Holidays and
Accommodation

There are a number of

There are a number of

Administration

GENERAL SYNOD OF THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE
CHURCH'S MINISTRY
The Council wishes to appoint aREGISTRAR
of the
GENERAL MINISTERIAL
EXAMINATION

as soon as possible. The Registrar, as a member of the Executive Team of the Advisory Council for the Church's Ministry (ACCM), will be responsible to the Chief Secretary (Canon John Tiller) for the administration of the General Ministerial Examination and will also act as Secretary of the Council's Examinations Sub-Committee of the Council's Committee for Theological Education. Experience of servicing committees and of administration are essential, as is the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Desirable candidates should have experience of educational administration and of drafting regulations.

The post is graded Senior Executive Officer on an incremental scale £10,981-£13,188 per annum. Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from:

Miss Anne Holt, Personnel Officer,
Church House, Dean's Yard,
Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 9th May, 1983. Interviews will be held in London on Wednesday, 1st June, 1983.

The Polytechnic
of North LondonSECRETARY AND CLERK
TO THE COURT
OF GOVERNORS
(Salary within the range
£18,468-£19,908)

The Secretary is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Polytechnic. Applications for this post are invited from persons with extensive experience at a senior level in the administration of higher education or of large and diverse organisations in either the public or private sectors. Further particulars and an application form obtainable from the Establishment Officer, The Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Road, N7 6DB, (Tel: 01-807 2789, Ext. 2016).

Closing date for receipt of applications: Monday 8th May, 1983.

NATIONAL ADVISORY BODY
FOR
LOCAL AUTHORITY
HIGHER EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER

Applications are invited for a post of Administrative Officer which will be a full-time position for a period of three years and may be extended for a further three years.

There is no set closing date for applications. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, National Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education, 1, Whitehall Court, London W1B 3AL.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, National Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education, 1, Whitehall Court, London W1B 3AL.

The Association
Examining Board

The Board invites applications for the following posts:

CHIEF EXAMINER
FOR DRESS (G17) AT
ADVANCED LEVEL
FOR THE 1985
EXAMINATION

Applicants for these posts should have a degree in Fashion Design or a related subject and should have experience of working for the Association Examining Board.

MODERATOR FOR
DRESS (G17) AT
ADVANCED LEVEL
FOR THE 1985
EXAMINATION

Applicants for these posts should have a degree in Fashion Design or a related subject and should have experience of working for the Association Examining Board.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Association Examining Board, Wellington House, 30, Bedford Square, London WC1R 4EJ. Tel: 01-637 1189. Applications should be returned by 8th May.

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REMINDER
copy for
Classified Ads in
the THES should
arrive not later
than 10am
Monday
preceding
publication

There are a number of

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There are a number of

Courses continued

Diploma in Special Education Needs

This one year full-time in-service course examines particular classroom problems within appropriate theoretical perspectives. The course content covers:

- Language and Learning
- Mathematics
- Child Development
- Current issues in the field.

A school experience programme forms an integral part of this professional course.

For further details and an application form, please contact:
Admissions (Dept.), Humberside College of Higher Education,
Cottingham Road, Hull HU6 7RT. Telephone: Hull (0482) 41451.

HUMBERSIDE COLLEGE of Higher Education

Colleges of Further Education

Nene College Northampton

SENIOR LECTURER

PRIMARY PROFESSIONAL STUDIES LEADER

Applications are invited from suitably qualified people for the above post, commencing 1 September 1983.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the development of Primary Professional and Curriculum Studies in the College including leading a new primary curriculum unit in the B.Ed. degree.

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER

IN READING AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified people for the above post, commencing 1 September 1983.

The successful applicant will be expected to offer specialist contribution in this key curriculum area, leading and co-ordinating work in a unit of the B.Ed. degree and in appropriate in-service courses.

For further details and application form for the above posts, please apply to the Deputy School of Education and Social Sciences, Nene College, Moulton Park, Northampton NN2 7AD.

Completed application forms should be returned by 8 May 1983.

SOUTH GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DRAMA

Principal Dr. Raymond Edwards, CBE

HEAD OF MUSIC DEPARTMENT (GRADE V DEPARTMENT)

Applications are invited for the above post which will become vacant upon the retirement of Mr. David Evans in September 1983.

The Department, which is well established in a prestigious building situated in College Park, Cardiff, offers full time courses of provision and develops a high standard with special emphasis on performance.

Further particulars and application forms can be obtained from The Registrar, Welsh College of Music and Drama, College Park, Cardiff, to whom completed forms should be returned not later than 2 weeks from the appearance of this advertisement.

L. A. Cole, Director of Education, Kidgway, Cardiff.

Berkshire Education

Bracknell College

Department of Business, Computing and Studies

Headmaster, September 1983

LECTURER II IN BUSINESS STUDIES

Applications are invited for the above post which will become vacant upon the retirement of Mr. David Evans in September 1983.

The Department, which is well established in a prestigious building situated in College Park, Cardiff, offers full time courses of provision and develops a high standard with special emphasis on performance.

Further particulars and application forms can be obtained from The Registrar, Welsh College of Music and Drama, College Park, Cardiff, to whom completed forms should be returned not later than 2 weeks from the appearance of this advertisement.

L. A. Cole, Director of Education, Kidgway, Cardiff.

For further details and application form for the above posts, please apply to the Deputy School of Education and Social Sciences, Nene College, Moulton Park, Northampton NN2 7AD.

Completed application forms should be returned by 8 May 1983.

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Completed application forms should be returned by 8 May 1983.

ilea

GARNETT COLLEGE

Downshire House,
Roehampton Lane

London

SW15 4HR

(Tel: 01-789 5533)

Applications are invited for

appointment to the following

posts from September 1983 or

as soon as possible thereafter.

Candidates should have had

several years' relevant

teaching experience in FE.

1. Principal Lecturer in

Nursing Studies

To lead the paramedical team

and be responsible for a

section of about 45 students.

Applicants are invited from

Registered Nurse Tutors pre-

ferably university graduates.

Experience in the organisation

and management of a School

of Nursing, in-teacher training

or as a lecturer in a college of

further or higher education

would be an added advantage.

2. Principal Lecturer to

be in charge of

Secretarial and Office

Studies Section

Applicants should combine an

appropriate teaching special-

ism with the ability to organise

and contribute to the teaching

of special method to pre-

service and in-service stu-

dents. Knowledge of word

processing and experience in

the use of micro-computers in

the classroom would be an

advantage.

3. Lecturer II in Drama,

Role Play and

Simulation

Candidates should have ex-

perience of the general ap-

plication of their specialism to

methods of teaching in Further

Education, with particular re-

ference to vocational prepara-

tion courses.

Applicants are also invited

for the following TEMPO-

ARY posts probably of be-

tween one and two years'

duration to replace staff on

secondment. These short-

term engagements might be-

gin before September 1983 if

the selected candidate were

available.

4. Lecturer II - Computer

Applications

To develop the application of

computer technology in a

range of specialised subject

areas, to assess current de-

velopments and to encourage

students to use computers ef-

fectively in their studies.

The teaching will include some

assistance with existing Ed-

ucational Technology courses.

5. Lecturer II in General &

Communications

Studies

Candidates should have ex-

perience of integrative

strategies for teaching G.

and C.S. and have been

concerned with the main-

tenance of G. and C.S. in

Vocational Preparation pro-

grammes.

Salary scales in accordance

with the Burnham (FE) award

effective from 1 April 1982

(subject to formal approval).

Lecturer II - £3,855-£4,024

Principal Lecturer £4,181-

£4,350 (bar) - £4,616; all

plus £335 inner London al-

lowance. Starting point depend-

ing on qualifications, training

and experience. Applicants

should indicate, for which

posts they wish to receive

details.

Further information and ap-

plication forms obtainable

from the Principal (Ref. 77) of

the College. To whom com-

pleted forms should be re-

turned within 10 days.

ilea is an equal opportuni-

ties employer.

Overseas continued

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

Lecturers

The Institute of Education is the only tertiary institution in Singapore engaged in teacher training. It is responsible for the pre-service training of pre-primary, primary and secondary education teachers, the continuing education of qualified practising teachers and the preparation of university graduates for the Diploma in Education and the degrees of Master of Education and PhD in Education. The Institute also conducts research in the field of education.

The Institute is inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates for the following lectureship positions:

Mathematics Education

(2 vacancies)

Research and Evaluation

Psychological Testing

School Guidance and Counselling

Educational Psychology or Special

Education with Emphasis on the Gifted

and Talented

Geography Education

Computer Studies

Language Education

Instructional Design

Pedagogical Studies

Special Education on Behavioural

Disabilities

Science Education

Art Education

General Requirements

1. Applicants should hold a master's degree and/or have an equivalent qualification. Applicants are requested to refer to a separate list on job specification obtainable together with the application forms.

2. In addition to the above, applicants should hold teaching diplomas or certificates and have at least 3 years' approved teaching or related teaching experience and experience in teacher education.

3. Applicants with experience in research in education would be preferred.

Remuneration

Approximate salary ranges, including personal and housing allowances, where appropriate are as follows:

Single officer: \$38,500 p.a. - \$57,140 p.a.
Officer accompanied by spouse or children: \$42,100 p.a. - \$60,740 p.a.
Officer accompanied by spouse and children: \$45,700 p.a. - \$64,340 p.a.

Chief Librarian

Apart from the above-mentioned lectureship positions, the Institute is also inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Chief Librarian.

(a) Qualifications

A university degree with honours preferably in education and a professional library qualification.

(b) Experience

Candidates must have at least 5 years' experience in a similar position with previous successful record of library planning and staff supervision. Candidates must be imaginative, dynamic and able to provide leadership in the administration of the library.

(c) Remuneration

Approximate salary ranges, including housing allowance, where appropriate are as follows:

Single officer: \$38,500 p.a. - \$57,140 p.a.
Officer accompanied by spouse or children: \$42,100 p.a. - \$60,740 p.a.
Officer accompanied by spouse and children: \$45,700 p.a. - \$64,340 p.a.

Other Benefits

Other benefits applicable to the lectureship position and the Chief Librarian include loan scheme for the purchase of cars, medical benefits, children's education allowance where applicable and a monthly contribution by the Institute of 22% of the officer's basic salary plus housing and education allowances towards the Central Provident Fund. The officer will also have to contribute 23% of his basic salary plus allowances towards the Central Provident Fund, subject to a ceiling of \$5,980 per month. (The rate of contribution to the Central Provident Fund are subject to revision periodically.)

Application

Application forms can be obtained from the Singapore High Commission, 5 Chesham Street, London SW1V 2EL. Tel: 01-235 9077 (Ext. 7) (Evening). Completed application forms should be returned to Miss Evelyn by 9th May, 1983.

University of The Witwatersrand Johannesburg

Philosophy

SENIOR LECTURER

Applications are invited from

suitably qualified persons

regardless of sex,

race, colour or national

origin for appointment to

the post of Senior Lecturer

in the Department of

Philosophy.

Applicants should have

at least a PhD in Philoso-

phy and a minimum of 5

years' post-graduate teach-

ing experience in a tertiary

institution. The successful

candidate will be expected

to contribute to the develop-

ment of the Department of

Philosophy and to partici-

pate in the University's

research and teaching pro-

gramme. The successful

candidate will be expected

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Philosophy and to partici-

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Don's diary

Monday

A visit to the Design Centre in London for the press day of the young creators' exhibition. It was most satisfying to see on show the fruits of students' work from our industrial design course which we are engineering with our art and design colleagues. I am gradually learning the value of publicizing our efforts in engineering: too often we hide our light under a bushel. Exciting and stimulating though it has been, it has again brought home to me the general lack of interest and comprehension of engineers' work. We have to accept nowadays that sound engineering is taken for granted. The new Leyland Maestro car has appeal because of its general design, good promotion and latest technological gimmicks but if anything should go wrong with the mechanics then just wait for the brick bats to fly. Perhaps that is as it should be: do we not expect sound professional practice from others, eg solicitors, accountants and so on? There really is no glamour in a supporting job well done but put together with a competent presentation then you can have a winning combination.

Tuesday

One of the reasons why I often lose my temper with my eldest son is that he is in some ways like me and reflects my own limitations. I don't suppose anyone likes being reminded of shortcomings but one of mine is, I am told, a lack of self confidence in my ability. I have an old friend and contemporary from apprenticeship days who is now a professor and head of department (in another institution) while I remain one of the hewers of wood and drawers of water. My friend has assured me that I have a better brain and so, swaggering in now-found confidence from yesterday, I decide to write this for THE TIMES.

To add to this euphoria I received news that my application for a research project into design teaching has been approved by the polytechnic and now await approval from the funding organization. I send a memo to various members of the directorate about the legal protection of inventions and designs. Some of my work in teaching engineering and industrial design throws up ideas that have commercial potential. A fruitful partnership between students and staff is what we all aim for and is rare enough to be memorable when it happens. But unless there is some form of agreement with students (and employers) such opportunities for patenting or registration can be lost.

Wednesday

Today is the day when my *THES* usually arrives from my brother-in-law. We have an arrangement where I send him some stamped addressed envelopes in which he sends me his used copy. I realize that revelation of this fact may jeopardize publication of this diary but would odd that I pass it (the paper not the diary) round the office afterwards.

Wednesday is also part-time technician day and we have the job of arousing the interest of unmotivated students. This is compensated for by classes on other courses, particularly the part-time degree where the students are keener, brighter and more enterprising. There is no doubt that you have to be adaptable where a variety of modes of attendance and maturity of students are all interwoven in the timetable.

Teaching design means that I am involved in all the courses in our department. Sometimes I think I would be more comfortable to stick with a single subject specialization

which could be the reason that many people in engineering prefer to keep it that way. Reading *The THES* article "Ask the Engineers" was rather depressing but contains much truth. Engineering courses that are technically narrow and narrowly technical do indeed exist and one wonders how to break this circle of narrowness in higher education. My recent experience of collaboration with industrial designers leads me to believe it possible but unlikely wherever engineering research is perceived in traditional terms of digging academic holes.

Thursday

Until recently I used to have Thursdays clear of class contact. While this meant a heavy day on Friday (including afternoons - Laurie Taylor please note) it was nice to breathe freely for a day. But now duty calls and we have today as one of two days for our new pilot scheme in engineering design. This has attracted a certain amount of interest and during the last few weeks various visitors have come to see us. Unlike most part-time technician courses we seem to have succeeded in attaining a group identity. Perhaps this may be due to a guinea pig syndrome but we like to think it is because of our enlightened approach to teaching, assessment, breadth of interest etc.

This is the time for setting examinations and I find the pleasure of receiving a comment from one of the external assessors to the effect that it was a nice paper. The other quibbles about a point of interpretation and found a spelling mistake. On the whole external perform an important and useful duty; more often than not as a check on upward drift. Year after year one must remind oneself that it may be another year for teachers but it is the first for students.

Friday

End of term. Only 11 weeks but it has felt longer. I sometimes think of water running along a channel. It has just enough energy to travel the distance and then fall off at the end. I usually try to do housekeeping jobs in this office on Friday afternoons now that these classes have finished, but today started to mark some first-year degree drawing exam papers. When I take with students about our work starting when theirs finishes they do not believe me. Why should they? No! They do believe that we are on their side. First-year students are not far enough away from school, and in such large class sizes there is no hope of knowing them personally until they have thinned down into options mid tutorial groups in later years.

It is a constant irritation with graphical communication and drawing that it is not perceived by students as a proper subject. Some of them ask: "What's the point of this? It's just a drawing." (as well as another subject). What we assure them that this is the case, they are rather upset because, of course, they have been by our selection system to put all their eggs into the maths and physics baskets with little reference to applications and design: perhaps things are changing.

Looking forward to a hike on the southern end of the Pennines, in bad weather this can be the bleakest terrain in the country but as A. Vainwright says: "It will do you good."

Martin Hodkinson

The author is senior lecturer in engineering design at Preston Polytechnic.

Sir, - As some of your readers appear to be upset by my view last month that Sir Harold Wilson is not the best thing that happened to our country since King John, I had better find a safer pretext this month. One correspondent even went so far as to call me a "political scientist" and a poor one at that for being disrespectful of a Prime Minister.

Now it happens that I dislike the term "political science" almost as much as Sir Keith Joseph dislikes "social science", and certainly my idea of objectivity in political education is not teaching respect for the powers that be and beating the drum for the Rule of Law.

Citizens ask prior questions: are the powers exercising their authority reasonably and are the laws just?

However, I did break the rules by writing about a speaker and a meeting I had chaired. (Actually, it was all an allegory for someone else of far less consequence, but that only makes the indulgent offence worse.)

These occasions should be as silent as the confessional, or else what tales could be told. As a student I remember when St Catherine's in Windsor Great Park was running weekends to save the souls of London University. Sir Walter Moberley became principal in his retirement, the former chairman of the UGC and author of the once celebrated *The Crisis in the Universities* - which was that Christianity was ebbing.

Each weekend was on "Moral Responsibility and..." And law, engineering, medicine, economics, German, they waded through the disciplines.

Old Sir Walter would always fall asleep in the chair, but then was to give a perfect summary of the points the speaker had made on his eccentric subject. Quite simply he had heard it all before. I begin to see how that is possible.

So I will write about a conference that has not yet taken place and something I have not heard before. I wrote an essay called "The Peaceable Kingdom" in 1964 questioning the common view that our history had been uniquely peaceable. I cannot remember what triggered it but it did come before the student troubles of 1968 and Northern Ireland again. I also wrote up some lectures to the British Humanists as *Crime, Rape and Gin: the reflections of a political philosopher on some problems relating to violence, pornography and drugs*. In addition, making very clear that I disliked and condemned these things, but casting doubt on Lord Longford's and St Malcolm's theses of the time that they were leading to a breakdown of civilization as we know it; further I argued the need for clear criteria before looking people up rather than just disapproving of them publicly.

Though I have written nothing on football, football metaphors keep creeping into my prose, even in this column. The quality of my support,

A national university - the next step?

The time has come to abolish the Council for National Academic Awards, the polytechnics, the colleges and institutes of higher education, and create a National University. This would effectively be a step beyond the CNAU, a concept of the 1960s, developed in order to facilitate the entry into higher education of institutions unable - like the universities - to award their own degrees. Twenty years on, there is a profound difference in the situation and to the concept.

First, we have had some 15 well-meaning years trying to understand the system of "universities" and "maintained sector" (institutions). Secondly, there are 30 polytechnics and 60 or so colleges and institutes in the "maintained" category, with their own styles of higher education under the aegis of the CNAU and the universities. Thirdly, some polytechnics want chartered, degree-awarding (in other words, university) status.

We have had, fourthly, the ambiguous identities of virtually all the higher education institutions, borrowing ideas, practices and definitions from one another. Finally, with

Violence and the sport of conferences



Bernard Crick

for the Royal Shakespeare Company used to be like that I gave to Arsenal, but now it is only the Labour Party that I'll stick to, through thick and thin, whatever it does: I'm too old to seek bliss elsewhere and paying by standing order takes away any annual *crise de conscience* when Ken Livingstone is visiting Belfast or Beirut. Also in a paper on the aims of political education I argued from my experience in refereeing under 11 football against the Rule of Law; football, like politics, is not learned from a book, it is a tradition (*vide* Akered) or an activity (*vide* Oakeshott); you do not play it better or even more fairly by learning the rules; and it cannot be played at all if the players play to the rules and not to the whistle (*vide* Hobbes).

It must be all that which led the all-seating Centre for Contemporary Studies to ask me to give a paper at a private conference on "Patterns of Social Violence: Football as a Focus for Social Disorder" which will be held before leading figures from football organizations, newspapers and police forces throughout the country (that means Scotland too, where of late in the Rangers and Celtic contests "the who of Law" fight together, not just youth). Local excitement mounts as to whether I really will come home with Laurie McManis and Jimmy Hill's autographs, but I'm wondering why I let myself in for it. Perhaps just the primal intellectual motive that killed the cat-curiosity.

My intellectual difficulty is this: they have already wisely closed up the target and packed the goal mouth with the subtle. Professional football with large crowds is indeed a focus for disorder. But would anyone really say that they are - either by

the creation of the National Advisory Bodies for England and Wales we have seen the emergence of new roles for the CNAU, the validating universities and other bodies involved in professional higher education, in the formation of educational policy. Sixthly, we have had a decade of confusion about the funding and control of the "maintained" sector, about the respective roles of the local authorities, the Department of Education and Science, prospective national bodies (and the NAB and WAB, created - it was said - for a three-year period) - at the same time as major changes have taken place in the functions of the University Grants Committee.

These and other alterations have produced uncertainty, competition, mistrust and conflict. There is daily dissonance of position, status, finance, control.

The polytechnics, the Open University, the colleges and institutes of higher education (both maintained and voluntary), represent the entry into higher education of categories previously not accepted as part of that definition. Such institutions now operate, however, in a confused and confusing semi-system. They are uncertain of their financial futures, their limitations and re-alignments in their content.

A new National University would be the largest part of the total university system - but it should be remembered that the largest block of under-graduate higher education is

way of blame or confession - a cause? Or that being the focus there is very much they can do about it? Or that there is clearly more social disorder now than in the past, rather than that we are now more intolerant of it and measure it (over short runs) more carefully? Traditionally magistrates used to ban large crowds as being likely to cause disorder. Only Wealey's preachings and Chartist demonstrations broke these rules. Even fairs and markets were heavily regulated and policed. Violence, moreover, is usually very specific: riots were about something, and if they "got out of hand" that was an imposed judgment, the rioters themselves usually knew what they were doing and were astonishingly precise. Houses were pulled down, by ropes from the front while the family got out the back, and while carriages were overturned, the owners were pelleted with mud and manure not stones, and the horses presumably unharnessed first - one never reads of London or Edinburgh mobs burning horses.

Classrooms are sometimes a focus of violence, again of weirdly specific kinds; but does anyone except Sir Keith seriously think either that bad teachers can cause it (considering all the social causes of violence) or even that good teachers can do much about it? Presumably those who make trouble in and around football grounds go to do just that. It is a more communal, tribal almost, activity than smashing phone boxes or other publicly visible symbols of authority, that authority which (by what it has done or not done) cannot mean to them what it means to us, still less what we say it should mean to them (like respecting Harold Wilson and the Rule of Law).

"Focus", indeed; for the studies I'm looking at (having got myself into this mess) are all really about social violence and youth delinquency in general. I suppose professional football in attracting huge crowds in a continuous adversarial posture (say unlike racing crowds), and in very poor conditions, such as all standing (unlike boxing or wrestling crowds) and more drunk (because the bars within the ground usually remain open, the profit being as essential as sweeties to Oxford Colleges), is asking for it.

All I feel sure about is that people who want to improve the game as a spectator spectacle are to be encouraged but they shouldn't sell their arguments by claiming a likely diminution of violence: that lies in outside society. Can the academy say to the clubs much more than that the underlying causes of social violence are imperfectly related to what triggers off specific outbreaks, and that palliatives are fairly obvious but difficult - whether for the Football Association or Northern Ireland office: less unemployment and more accommodation.

already that reading for degrees of the CNAU. Existing university activities and anxieties would be exacerbated. The UGC would have to be remodelled. Relations between the universities in general (not only the NU) and further education would need rethinking - and strengthening. Discussion of credit transfers, work experience, and the range of higher education issues currently in the air, would take on fresh urgency in a new set of relationships among institutions, and between them and the schools, FE, the local authorities, the employers, the professions, government. The most likely basis for the new university would be a partnership of the CNAU and the Open University - both already chartered institutions.

The crisis is the need for a more unified system within which the new institutions of the past two decades can find a legitimate place in a redesigned university system. Given the intention to treat higher education in the future in anything like a systematic manner, the National University is the next rational step to take. It would be the logical, necessary definition and shape for those significant sectors of higher education that have emerged, taken form and established their credibility in the recent past.

Harold Silver

The author is Principal of Bulmeridge College of Higher Education.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Building bridges across the binary system

Sir, - I congratulate you on your editorial concerning post-binary strategy (*THES*, April 8), emphasizing the fact that it must be firmly post-binary, not a reversion to pre-binary positions.

Having worked for some years in the university sector and then in a polytechnic, I can confirm the accuracy of much of your analysis, especially the need to reinterpret the role of local authorities in higher education. I have found the perspective of a professional institute valuable in this context. By far the greatest proportion of the Royal Institute of British Architects' educational process is conducted "under license" within the publicly funded higher education system, but its primary concern is with professional formation not with the politics of

higher education. Inevitably, however, the scale of present developments require it to take a view and to seek to play an appropriate part in events. Through historical accident, its courses are run in institutions on both sides of the binary line and beyond. The royal institute values the variety of its system, which it wishes to preserve, and does not see professional education as belonging solely or mainly to any one type of organization. Since no precise forecast can be made of the profession's needs to the end of this century and in the next, it is desirable to produce flexible individuals of high calibre from a range of educational experiences.

Hence the formulation of policy which the royal institute is undertaking in this area is likely to be in tune

with much of what you say. We believe that all those thus concerned to see positive developments in the country's higher education on these lines can be encouraged by the participation of Christopher Ball and his staff at the National Advisory Body in this crucial period of change. That is why we sought and welcomed the establishment of the NAB/University Grants Committee working group on architectural education under Lord Esher, which we consider could be as significant for the future of the higher educational system as for the profession's education.

Yours sincerely,
PETER A. GIBBS-KENNET,
Director, Education and Professional Development,
Royal Institute of British Architects.

Citation analysis

Sir, - *The THES* recently (February 25) published a full-page article on science quality control, reporting work done at the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University. The trade-mark laws require that I call to your attention the inadvertent misquoting of the title of our Science Citation Index, which should have appeared in italics. We are always pleased when *SCJ* is mentioned, but it is a proprietary name and this should be recognized.

I was somewhat surprised that your reporter did not allude to the extensive literature available on citation analysis. Some of the simplistic notions about the careless use of citation data give rise to heated debate. This is often because the users or readers of this information are insufficiently aware of the statistical and other factors influencing citation analysis. Even in your own pages (Curran, *THES*, October 22) you have carried statements recently rebutting some of the more common misunderstandings about simple citation counts.

What may not be appreciated is the much more sophisticated and subtle modelling work in scientometrics done by the Institute for Scientific Information and for others over the last several years. Involving the techniques of co-citation cluster analysis, and the mapping of research front specialities. These techniques can remove most of the remaining causes for criticism of "simple" citation counts. Like any technique, these must be used with caution, and their interpretation requires great skill.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES CAMERON,
Manager (UK and Ireland),
Institute for Scientific Information.

Strong foundations
Sir, - I was most unhappy to see that the Open University Students' Association is asking that students should no longer be required to complete two compulsory foundation courses (*THES*, April 8).

The foundation courses are one of the most valuable contributions of the OU to higher education. For the mature student, even more than for the student who has recently left school, the breadth of knowledge gained from studying a subject outside his or her own chosen speciality is invaluable. It would be a pity if misguided pressure from students persuaded the senate to waive one of the rules on which quite literally the OU concept is founded.

Yours faithfully,
W. B. LESSING,
57 Comyns Gardens,
London NW6.

Teaching quality

Sir, - As a footnote to David Wright's letter (*THES*, April 15) on the quality of teaching in polytechnics and universities, can teachers claim any other form of employment where not only are they not allowed to dismiss, but they are not even allowed to attempt to assess the employee's efficiency (readable freedom)?
Yours faithfully,
BENNETT LONGHURST,
School of International Studies,
Leeds Polytechnic.

Loans v grants

Sir, - In an article entitled "Students may prefer loans to overdrafts" (*THES*, March 11), a claim is made that students see loans as an attractive option to the present grants system.

This ridiculous claim was made as a result of the survey Mr Bob Maclean, chairperson, National Union of Students Scotland, released showing nearly 40 per cent of students were on bank overdrafts. The most interesting point to arise from the survey has been ignored. The same questionnaire asked the question: "Would you go to university if there were no student grants?" 84 per cent of Heriot-Watt students replied "No". It would still be possible to twist the figures to suggest that 43 per cent of students on overdrafts was acceptance of a loans system.

However, the same questionnaire also asked: "Would you accept a loans scheme comprising of half grant and half loan?" 60 per cent of students said "No", a massive rejection of a loans scheme.

In examining the survey conducted by the five Scottish universities students associations, *The THES* article has ignored the relevant figures showing the massive body of students opposed to any loans scheme. To suggest that students are accepting overdrafts in the hope of securing a loans scheme is ridiculous and does not hide the fact that students are only on overdrafts due to continual reduction in real terms of the student grant.

Your faithfully,
BILLY BLAIN,
President,
Heriot-Watt University Students Association.

where the trainers themselves vary in background. While counselling skills can be deployed by staff at a variety of levels. It is worth noting that our own training amounts to at least a year's work at graduate level and many members also undergo regular supervision and continuing development in order to maintain their expertise.

Considering the potential importance for the lives of many young people of the way they are hoodled in this new scheme, it is not surprising that anxiety was expressed at our recent annual general meeting. Our "umbrella" body, the British Association for Counselling, has already made representations to the Manpower Services Commission on behalf of the counselling movement; the imminence of the Youth Training Scheme makes it necessary for us to add our voice publicly to those who are concerned. We do not want to be associated with counselling used as coercion.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER H. CROWTHER,
Chairman,
Association for Student Counselling.

Library use
Sir, - With reference to your article on academic publishing, "Books in a bind" (*THES*, April 8), as a librarian it seems to me that what is truly symptomatic of the predicament of the student is not the suspected increase in lending but the ever-increasing number of times that the cost-of-living index.

Although a complexity of reasons will lie behind this increase in the number of times people have used university libraries, most academic librarians would accept that increasing reliance on reserve and reference copies of course texts is a contributing factor and that the trend is likely to continue as long as libraries are under funded.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD NICHOLSON,
Assistant Librarian,
British Library of Political and Economic Science,
London School of Economics.

Kent and Oxford
Sir, - In an otherwise highly illuminating article on the possible creation of a department of adult and continuing education at Warwick University (*THES*, April 8) an minor error slipped in. Although Surrey did take over responsibility for adult and

continuing education from London University, we (like Sussex) devolved responsibility for adult education in the South-east for many decades.

Yours faithfully,
A. T. BARBROOK,
University of Kent School of Continuing Education.

Making the most of your friends

Sir, - In a leading article (*THES*, April 15), you built on the foundation of the account by Mr Footman of the "Fund-raising, friend-raising" activities of the North American universities to consider the situation in Britain. Most of our universities include within the definition of their membership "the graduates" - certainly the numerically largest part of the whole. As you rightly observe, old student associations and clubs are no longer fashionable, but this "membership" of the graduates does continue through the convocations. The majority of the universities have these with powers and privileges which are varied but nevertheless quite real. Indeed in recent years several of the newer universities have been active in establishing them for themselves. A considerable number of these convocations come together each year at an annual conference to consider issues of common interest and concern.

All of them believe the role of graduates to be of significance and value both to the universities and to society as a whole. At no time has it been more important that intellectual bridges are built and maintained between our universities and the nation at large. These bridges are essentially for two-way traffic with knowledge and ideas being exchanged for the hard facts of industry and commerce. Both the fabric of these bridges and much of the traffic upon them originates in the graduates and their organizations.

As you rightly conclude, "there is a community of concern" and I join with you in urging that this should be recognized, strengthened and involved so that its potential may be more fully used to the benefit of the universities and hence of the graduates themselves.

Yours faithfully,
K. W. ALLEN,
President,
Conference of University Convocations.

Professional skills

Sir, - Is it not ironic that in an issue which highlighted Sir Keith Joseph's plans to improve the quality of school teaching by among other things, "an increase in teacher-training with recent school experience" (*THES*, March 25) Exeter University school of education should be advertising a Social Science Research Council linked studentship to read for the degree of PhD in primary education without requiring candidates to have any teaching experience, nor even apparently a post-graduate certificate of education?

The *TES* carried a similar announcement from Leicester University school of education indicating a willingness to consider even present undergraduates as suggesting only that "some teaching experience would be welcomed". These are no doubt excellent openings for the anthropologists, sociologists and philosophers who, according to the same article in *The THES*, Sir Keith may bar from becoming teachers; but they indicate one of the possible causes for so much pedagogic theory being divorced from the "coffices" of the classroom.

On another point, your leader comment concerning teachers that "none of the negative factors of the early 1970s continue to apply" is seriously misinformed. Pay is 30 per cent below the 1974 Houghton award and apart from this new recruits to the teaching profession can expect poorly-equipped classrooms, poorly-motivated pupils, low morale, lack of real promotion prospects and lack of recognition for their work.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GARNER,
13 Eastbury Avenue,
Tilbury,
Reading.

Sarah Veale
John Murray

Letters for publication should arrive by Tuesday morning. They should be as short as possible and written on one side of the paper. The editor reserves the right to cut or abridge them if necessary.

Union View

The chaos for overseas students

"Ordinary residence", "three-year rule", "Scarmarman ruling" - all these phrases have been common parlance among Department of Education and Science officials, local authorities, the National Union of Students and others. They all relate to the position of overseas students and immigrants vis-a-vis tuition fees and grants. "Ordinary residence" means living here, according to the Scarmarman ruling of last December, for more or less any purpose, including education. The three-year rule is the unpleasant device by which newly arrived immigrants have to wait three years before being defined as "home students" and thus able to benefit from home student fees and grants. This is a particularly unnecessary rule, saving negligible amounts of money, but causing distress to a small but significant number of new immigrants wishing to go to college.

Are you confused yet? So are we, and so is the DES, but it is its fault, and not ours. Following the Scarmarman ruling, it has now decided to amend the awards regulations to ensure that potential students from overseas do not think that they can study here for three years at further education colleges, then become eligible for grants. This was no great surprise, but what did surprise us, after taking our own legal counsel on the implications of the Scarmarman ruling, was that the Government has created an arbitrary cut-off point at 1979 for retrospective payments on appeal to local authorities, and that many students on course this year are to be excluded because of the inordinate

length of time taken by the DES to issue instructions to the local authorities.

Such students will now have no option but to appeal if retrospective payments on the basis of written applications are refused. If no written application was made, because local authorities advised students that it would not be worth it, the legal situation is even more unclear. The NUS will be pursuing these issues through the courts, if necessary.

As yet, we have no ruling from the DES on fees. The NUS is not altogether surprised that the fees issue is taking the Government so long to sort out, giving the mess that had been allowed to exist prior to the Scarmarman ruling. We believe that under the Race Relations Act of 1976, a student who has been wrongfully specified as an overseas student for fees purposes has a sound legal basis for repayment. The DES should recognize this and make money available for such repayments. No college should be allowed to penalize a student who thinks she or he is in this category, in the absence of guidance from the DES, and the NUS will take action against any college which attempts to impose academic sanctions on overseas students in doubt about their status. It is the insistence upon charging a differential fee to overseas students that has caused this chaos, and, more importantly, has prevented many poor students from overseas from benefiting from an education in this relatively wealthy country. With a General Election coming up, we hope that opposition parties will devise a more generous and workable system for overseas students and immigrants, and in the meantime, the Government must now make good the implications of the Scarmarman ruling on fees at the very least, and do this immediately, before students on course approach vital exams.

Sarah Veale
John Murray

Sarah Veale is vice president welfare and John Murray executive officer of the National Union of Students.